

The Middlebury Campus

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Students Dismissed from Faculty Meeting

By Claire Abbadi
Editor-in-Chief

At the monthly plenary faculty meeting on Friday, Nov. 6, the faculty discussed proposed changes to the Cultures and Civilizations requirement and student participation in the Pass/D/Fail system, but when the conversation shifted to student stress, the faculty voted 45-33 to move into an executive session.

Faculty Moderator and Professor of Mathematics David Dorman did not have an exact figure on the number of times the faculty has moved into an executive session historically, but indicated it has happened a few times in the past two decades.

The decision to move to an executive session was prompted when Assistant Professor of Psychology Robert Moeller expressed his concerns about having students in the room as the faculty discussed sensitive, sometimes privileged information. As man-

dated by the College's handbook, the SGA, the *Campus* and Community Council have a standing invitation to plenary faculty meetings.

Once Moeller's concern was articulated, a motion was made and seconded to shift to executive session. The vote forced all non-voting members of the audience, including several student leaders, to leave.

"While it was of course disappointing that students were not able to be present for the faculty discussion surrounding stress," said SGA President Ilana Gratch '16, "I believe this event has the ability to spark a greater conversation about the dynamics between students, faculty and the administration."

"I was disappointed by the manner in which we were dismissed from the Faculty Council session, but I feel that this incident can be constructive instead

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FACULTY MEETING DISMISSES STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES



RACHEL FRANK

On Friday, Nov. 6, the faculty met to discuss proposed changes to the Cultures and Civilizations requirement. When the issue at hand turned to student stress, the faculty voted to move to an executive session.

TEDxMiddlebury Brings Speakers

By Abigail Browngohl
Contributing Writer

On Sunday, Nov. 8 the Middlebury community gathered in the Mahaney Center for the Arts (MCA) for the sixth annual TEDx-Middlebury event. Seven speakers gave speeches under this year's theme "Caught in the Act."

The event focused on understanding the lines created by society that people constantly endeavor to live with or rise above. The speakers and moderator urged that in creating identity in the world in which we live, there must be an awareness of

one's surroundings and an understanding of intersectionality.

With a last minute cancellation by Marco Mezzavilla due to travel issues, the event featured seven speakers: The Lady B, Elizabeth Ready, Casey Wanna '17, Wagatwe Wanjuki, Brendan O'Neill, Enrique Balcazar and Joshua Allen. In each of their 18-minute speeches, the speakers elaborated on their own interpretations of this year's theme in conjunction with their experiences of identity.

"We picked 'Caught in the Act' partly because it is about

self-reflection, but also because it is about communal reflection," said Jiya Pandya '17, who was the moderator of the event and a TEDx board member.

"Middlebury as a community has been thinking a lot recently about the way we understand this space and each other and ourselves as a collective, and with President Patton's arrival, a lot of these conversations have taken on a new light," said Pandya.

According to Pandya, the event was meant as a continuation of existing dialogue about

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MICHAEL O'HARA

After winning the TEDxMiddlebury Student Speaker Competition on Oct. 8, Casey Wanna '17 was selected to speak at this year's event. In her talk, Wanna spoke about the stigmatized world of eating disorders and society's unattainable body ideals.

FACULTY TALKS REQUIREMENTS AND PASS/D/FAIL OPTION

By Phil Bohlman
News Editor

On Friday, the faculty convened for their monthly plenary session to discuss the Cultures and Civilizations Distribution Requirement, the expiration of the Pass/D/Fail option in Dec. 31, 2015 and student mental health. In attendance were roughly 80 faculty. Per committee bylaws, select students were also in attendance, including the *Campus* and the Student Government Association (SGA).

The Faculty Educational Affairs Committee (EAC) presented a proposal to revise the current geographic areas covered in the requirement as well as refine the comparative (CMP) requirement with the introduction of the Critical Perspectives (CRP) designation.

In an email to the *Campus*, Jiya Pandya '17, Director for Academic Affairs in the SGA and chair of the Student Educational Affairs Committee said that the proposal was encouraging, and that faculty at the meeting posed thoughtful questions and counter proposals.

"I think the conversation needs to continue, because while the Cultures and Civilizations amendment is pressing, it is also about bigger questions about the 'ethic of diversity' (as President Laurie describes) in our classrooms and curricula," she said. "I'm excited to see that changes are happening and to see where they will go (hopefully, of course, to a vote that passes to change AAL), and also that the administration has been responsive to student feedback from the SEAC."

Under the proposal, students would be required to take any three courses in three of the seven geo-

graphic designations: Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, North America, Middle East and Oceania. Faculty have called into the question the relevancy of the Oceania requirement, as few if any classes offered at the College receive the designation. There has also been controversy over the optionality of the NOR requirement. If accepted, the new requirements would go into effect in the Fall 2017 semester.

The EAC also presented legislation to reinstate the Pass/D/Fail option, which is set to expire this year on Dec. 31 after a three year pilot program that began in Spring 2013. The stated goal of the original legislation was to encourage students to explore the curriculum outside their usual comfort zones.

In their proposal the EAC noted that the data they had collected regarding utilization of Pass/D/Fail did not conclusively point to its efficacy in encouraging students to move out of their academic comfort zone. In each of the five semesters in which the option has existed, more than half of the students invoking it have been seniors.

Both proposals will be voted on at a plenary session in January.

The session then moved into a discussion of student mental health. At this point the faculty voted 45 to 33 in favor of initiating an executive session. Only voting members of the Faculty committee may be present during executive session, and all proceedings are confidential. Non-voting members, including certain administrators and students, were asked to leave.

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COMMUNITY COUNCIL UPDATE

By Nick Garber
Community Council
Correspondent &
Contributing Writer

On Oct. 26, Community Council welcomed Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Faculty Andi Lloyd and Chief Diversity Officer Miguel Fernández, who, along with Dean of the College Katy Smith Abbott, presented a wide-ranging plan for improving the quality of life of students.

Originally tasked by the College's Board of Overseers with addressing issues of diversity and inclusivity as well as campus-wide stress, Lloyd and Smith Abbott soon determined that these subjects should be dealt with holistically by merging those separate issues.

Over the past summer, the group generated a long list of difficulties frequently cited by the student body; among those problems were the fear of missing out, time management, microaggressions, sexual violence, suicidal ideation, financial hardships and job market fears. These issues were then grouped into three main categories: promoting mind-body well-being, increasing diversity and fostering inclusivity and building community and resilience.

These three categories, said Lloyd, Fernández and Smith Abbott, will guide the implementation of numerous programs over the next few years intended to combat those difficulties. For diversity and inclusivity, the group mentioned the usage of transgender-friendly language in admissions materials and the potential modification of the Cultures and Civilizations requirement.

For mind-body wellness, potential measures discussed included creating a counseling fellow program to expand the number of counselors on campus, drop-in group exercises on mindfulness, and expanding Question Persuade Refer (QPR) training, which is designed to prevent suicides.

Finally, for building community and resilience, the group cited an upcoming storytelling program centered on discussions of failure and resilience and a strengthening of the faculty advising system.

Some initiatives, such as expanded counseling and QPR training, are already being implemented. Lloyd, Smith Abbott and Fernández also emphasized that the project is ongoing and intended to be open to contributions from all members of the community.

On Nov. 2, the Council continued its wide-ranging discussion on stress, focusing this week on the disproportionate levels of stress faced by students of color. The Council welcomed Charles Rainey '19, who shared that during his short time at Middlebury, he has already experienced multiple instances of racial prejudice.

In one case, while struggling to complete a difficult calculus problem, a classmate asked Rainey if he had attended a primarily black high school. In another instance, during a particularly heated political debate, an acquaintance of Rainey's used a racial slur.

The most troubling aspect of these incidents, according to Rainey, was not simply the fact that they occurred; rather, it was the lackluster response to the incidents by both fellow students and Residential Life staff. After the first incident, Rainey spoke to his First Year Counselors, who he said told him that "these things happen" and that he had no choice but to "hold [his] head up and keep going."

After the second incident, Rainey said there was a distinct lack of remorse on the part of the other student. "There was no apology," Rainey said. "It was almost as if he felt entitled to use that word."

Several on the Council emphasized that these experiences were common among students of color at Middlebury, and that the College must take a stronger stance against hurtful speech. "This is not just ignorance," said Metadel Lee '18.5, "it is willful disregard for our humanity, and I no longer accept it."

Finally, the Council welcomed Gus Jordan, Executive Director of Health and Counseling Services, who, among several issues, discussed the possibility of closing the Parton Center during low-traffic hours, and increasing student knowledge of counseling services.

Midd Rides App to Cut Wait Times

By Bridget Colliton
Contributing Writer

Over the last two semesters, the student organization Middle Endian, otherwise known as Middlebury's Computer Science club, has been working to create a new mobile app for the Midd Rides program, the evening transportation service on and around campus. The club plans to release the app during Winter Term of this year.

"The app is basically our solution to solve some of the inconsistencies and inconveniences of the current Midd Rides system," said Sherif Nada '16, one of the students spearheading the project. Currently, students are able to use Midd Rides by calling the dispatcher phone number during operation hours and ask to be picked up at one of the service's 11 stops. The dispatcher then radios the driver's assistant who will tell the driver where the next pick-up location is. The goal of the app is to streamline this process.

"The biggest problem is that someone can call the van and say 'come meet me at [Adirondack Circle], for example, and then you have no idea when that van is going to get there. And since Middlebury

is freezing most of the year, that's really inconvenient for a lot of people because they stay outside for a while [waiting for a van]" Nada said.

In order to enhance communications between the student and the Midd Rides dispatcher, rather than inundating the dispatcher with calls, students will be able to press a button that will alert the dispatcher that they need to be picked up. A drop-down menu will then allow students to select from the selection of locations around campus at which they wish to be picked up. The dispatcher will then be able to see the number of students at each location

who need to be picked up and tell the drivers the most convenient and time-sensitive routes. Additionally, the app will alert students on their phones when the driver is near.

By alerting students when the driver is near, the app aims to cut wait times from ten or 15 minutes, to two or three minutes. "The dispatcher to driver lane of communication stays the same, but the user to dispatcher communication is what is changing, at least in this version" said one of the programmers Nosagie Asaolu '18.

"The app is basically our solution to solve some of the inconsistencies and inconveniences of the current Midd Rides system."

SHERIF NADA '16
STUDENT

Faculty Meeting Moves to Executive Session

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

of contentious," said Community Council member Emma Bliska '18. "I think it's important for students and faculty to interact more in official spaces on campus, and to engage in dialogue about our roles in college decision-making."

Despite the narrow margin between those in favor of an executive session and those not, there was no discussion against the motion in the open meeting. However, the session sparked conversation, both for and against the motion, amongst the faculty afterwards.

"When the faculty is discussing matters with a direct impact on students' lives, these conversations should be open and transparent whenever possible," said Associate Professor of Economics Caitlin Myers. "While there will sometimes exist a compelling need for privacy, we should thoughtfully choose when and how to invoke executive session. I thought that the way the students were asked to leave conveyed distrust and paternalism, and I was troubled by how it went down."

Moeller, who first shared his concerns about having students in his room, explained his stance, bringing up two sepa-

rate issues: how having students – especially the press – in the room changes the conversation and how to respect students privacy, specifically in deference to the Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

First, the College is made up of a shared governance system: the Board of Trustees, the administration and faculty, all with different responsibilities. He points out that the *Campus* does not have a standing invitation to senior administrative meetings nor Board of Trustee meetings, so why is the faculty exposed to what he calls "greater levels of scrutiny" than the other parts of the system?

"What does that do to the power dynamic in a shared governance system?" asks Moeller. "Of the three parts of the system, all parts affect students lives and there shouldn't be more reporting on the faculty than the trustees and the administration."

Moeller also expressed his concern about upholding the privacies protected in FERPA. Within a small community, when faculty members are sharing stories about students, especially around grades and issues of mental health, it is easy to figure out

Laura Harris '17, who has worked as a driver and driver's assistant for Midd Rides for two years, agrees that the app would help Midd Rides be more efficient. "The new app would be useful to us as drivers because it will make it easier for people to meet the van on time, so we will be able to pick people up more efficiently and not spend time waiting at stops" she said.

Asaolu, Julian Billings '16, Ben Brown '18, Khi Chou '16, Henry Swaffield '18 and Peter Wang '18 are the programmers currently working to create the app. Nada founded the Computer Science club in order to provide computer science students with real-world rather than theoretical skills.

"I founded the club because I thought there was a disconnect between what is being taught in computer science and what is demanded in many areas of the job market," Nada said.

The programmers who are creating the app hope for it to spark the interest of other computer science students. "For the community at large, this is definitely a way to use Midd Rides better, but for people involved in computer science, for people who are trying to learn about coding or software development, this can be a playground," Nada said. "They can try to upgrade the product and expand it into something bigger than what it was initially."

who they are talking about. This brings up confidentially concerns that could become FERPA violations.

Lastly, he shared concerns from faculty, especially junior faculty, many of whom are already hesitant to participate in conversation, that students in the room will have a silencing effect. Moeller shared that several faculty members have expressed unease about the fact that their words could be quoted without consent.

"After last spring we needed to have an important conversation about student stress, and a candid one," Moeller said. "While students should most definitely be included in those conversations, faculty also need a venue to speak amongst themselves."

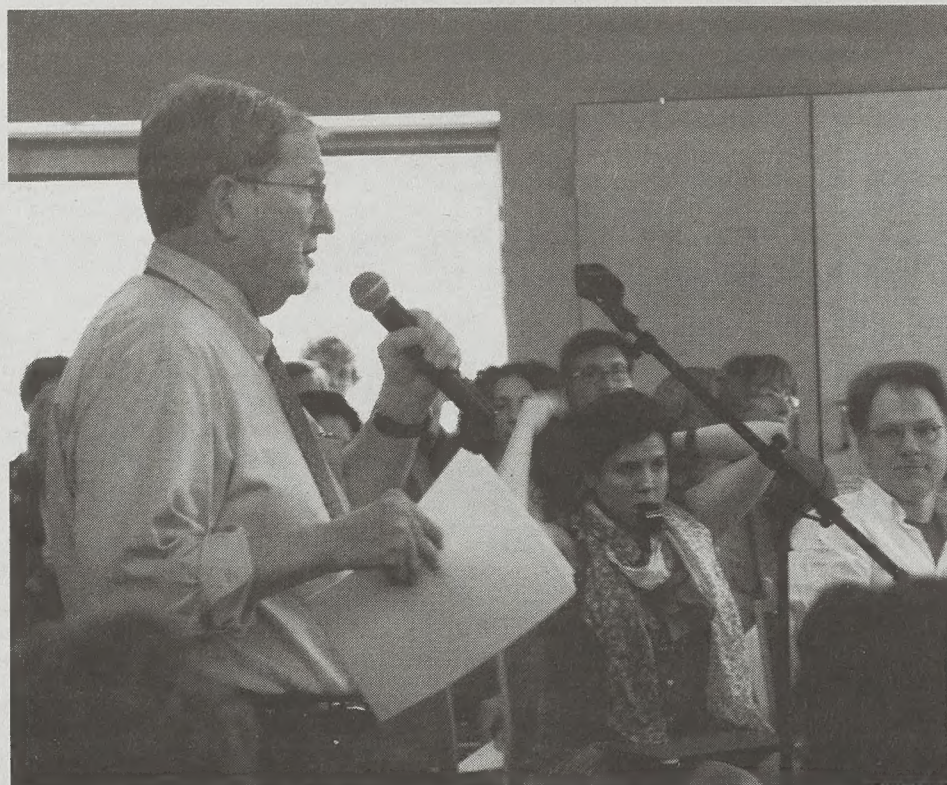
"There needs to be some system to convey the issues we are discussing to students, but a system that takes into account issues of confidentiality, FERPA and the silencing effect that students in the room could have on the faculty," he added.

Many students in the room have expressed that they want to play a more active role in these discussions and that their presence is not intended to scrutinize, but to engage.

"I believe any discussions about issues facing students should be as transparent as possible, not so students can supervise or criticize faculty members, but so these groups can collaborate more effectively and meaningfully on issues facing the college community," added Bliska.

President of the College Laurie L. Patton echoed the sentiment for the need for openness and student presence, as well as executive sessions.

"Faculty need to come to their own decisions about governance, and I have every confidence that they will," said Patton. "I recommended at the meeting that we need to do two things as a matter of course: 1) we need to have regular open faculty meetings, where students and staff can attend, and 2) we need to reserve a space for executive session at the end of those meetings. Many institutions of higher learning use this system of faculty governance, and I can easily see us moving in that direction. When executive sessions are simply part of every agenda, faculty can use them if they want to, but they don't have to if there's no business that requires "faculty-only" conversation. The key to this system is that meetings are then always open to the community and executive sessions no longer become a big deal."



Charles A. Dana Professor of Political Science Murray Dry spoke to faculty members during the Nov. 8 meeting.

Seven Speak at Sixth Annual TEDxMiddlebury

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self-discovery within the community under the College's new leadership. Each speaker took a different approach to this goal.

Wagatwe Wanjuki, a self-professed Internet junkie and "crazy bunny lady," spoke out about feminism and campus rape culture. Her online presence began with blogging during her years in prep school and continued when she enrolled in Tufts University. There, she began a campaign against rape culture after being sexually assaulted, unsupported by her university and subsequently asked to leave.

Wanjuki spoke about the waves of consequences associated with rape. According to her, it is not the trauma of a moment, but rather a trauma that continues to affect the survivor for years. After taking ten years to get her undergraduate degree, she accrued a debt of \$124,402.78. With loans of this size, her credit tanked and access to housing and even jobs that would help her recover were inaccessible to her. She pointed to this as the literal cost of not believing survivors.

Wanjuki pointed out the flawed reasoning associated with rape: that victimhood is a coveted state as *The Washington Post* columnist George Will expressed. Her reaction to this sentiment sparked her nationally trending hashtag #SurvivorPrivilege on Twitter. Wanjuki concluded her talk by beseeching audience members to believe survivors.

Another speaker, Joshua Allen, called upon fellow activists as he presented a poignant message of true liberation through a black, gender non-conforming lens. From a young age, Allen was told to "always ask

questions. Things are never as simple as they seem." Allen continued, "It is in our failures that we find the ability to organize."

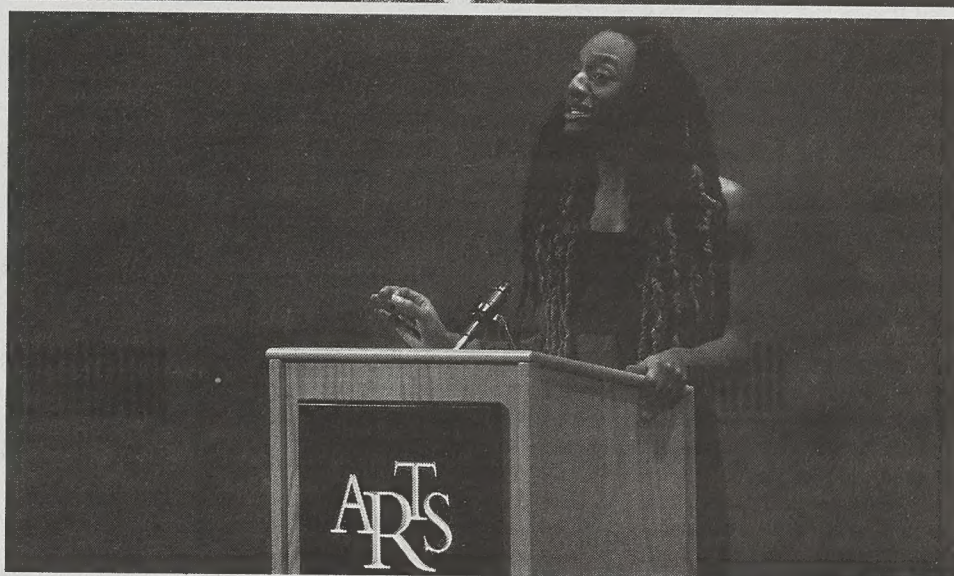
Allen works as an abolitionist, organizing social justice movements to end imperialist ideals and bring about black liberation. They lead a campaign to end genocide against black trans and gender non-conforming femmes, women and girls in the hopes of bridging the gap between racial and gender justice.

Abolition of police and prisons is at the forefront in Allen's work. They note that of the 25 million incarcerated in the United States, only 1 percent are murderers. Allen believes there are better ways to prevent criminal activity than the retroactive punishment of jail. Education, transformation and restoration of criminals through employment and other means, they argue, will help eradicate walls that harm society.

These speakers and the five others were meant to represent a wide range of subject matter that somehow share a core set of values of self-expression and reflection.

"The aim of TEDx ... is to bring together seemingly disparate topics and present them to our community to spark different conversations," Pandya said. "All the speakers at the event on Sunday, even though they come in with different lenses, are passionate people who are thinking forward, stand for something important, and are making change in their communities."

Further coverage on the remaining speakers, *The Lady B, Ready, Wanjuki, O'Neill and Balcazar*, can be found in the Features section on page 10.



MICHAEL O'HARA

This year's TEDxMiddlebury event invited outside guests including Lady B (pictured, above), Elizabeth Ready, Wagatwe Wanjuki and Joshua Allen (pictured, below).

On-Campus Traditional Japanese Teahouse Proposed

By Ethan Brady
Senior Writer

At an Atwater dinner hosted by Architecture Table, a design interest club, on Wednesday, Nov. 4, Douglas Brooks of Vergennes presented a proposal to build a traditional Japanese teahouse on The College's campus. The teahouse would be built by students over multiple academic semesters and could service classrooms and student groups year-round.

Brooks is a boatbuilder who traveled to Japan in 1990 and has since used the Japanese apprentice model of building in his work. He will teach a course in Japanese boatbuilding for the third time this upcoming winter term. At the dinner, he said that the overarching theme of the project, like his boatbuilding class, is contemplation, and that this permeates through all stages of the design and construction process.

"The teahouse will be a partnership with students and faculty from across the curriculum," he said. "The goal of the project would be two-fold: to construct a space that could be used for instruction and contemplation; and to use the construction and implementation of that space as a model for project-based learning and an interdisciplinary, interactive pedagogical tool for the immediate future and for years to come."

In Fall 2011, the College invited Akira Takemoto, a tea master at Whitman College in Washington, to demonstrate the traditional Japanese tea ceremony of chano-yu. Stephen Snyder, Dean of the Language Schools and Kawashima Professor of Japanese Studies, was one of several faculty members who began to think about the possibility of students designing, building and studying in a teahouse on the College's campus.

"I was struck by the demonstration in 2012 and had soon talked with Mr. Brooks about the idea of building a teahouse on campus," said Snyder. "It seemed ideally suited for learning about a range of topics in Japanese culture, from carpentry and

traditional pedagogy to Buddhism and ceramics. With Douglas, I assembled a group of faculty to begin conversations."

The discussions among faculty resulted in an intermediate studio course in the Department of History of Art and Architecture in spring 2013. Taught by a visiting assistant professor, Wendy Cox, the course, titled Time for Tea, had students propose teahouse designs and sites on the College's campus.

Six of the thirteen students in the course proposed siting the teahouse at the pond east of the Mahaney Center for the Arts plaza. One student proposed siting it in the winter garden at the Axinn Center at Starr Library, and another proposed siting it west of the Chateau by the existing grove of spruce trees.

The project lost momentum after the architecture studio, said Snyder, as the College decided not to address new construction of permanent buildings for the time being. After hearing about the presentation on Nov. 4, he is excited that the proposal has come back to students' attention.

Snyder said, "I'm thrilled for all the educational opportunities because of the building and programming of a teahouse. This cultural contemplative space dovetails so beautifully with a cluster of new campus priorities. I am also hoping the building process can span the undergraduate College and the Language Schools in the summer, where interest in both Japanese culture and contemplative practice are high."

On Nov. 5, President of the College Laurie L. Patton, spoke at the Henry Sheldon Museum for a members dinner, at which Brooks was in attendance. In her remarks, she spoke about the teahouse idea, and an audience member compared it to program she pioneered at Duke University in which a single intellectual theme was cultivated to engage the entire college community. Brooks, as well as other core members of the proposal team, said that the teahouse project would follow a similar trajectory.

In a statement shared with Patton on Nov. 9, Brooks, students and faculty shared their vision for the project: "We are committed to realizing this project with the broadest possible collaborations across the curriculum. We wish to invite all faculty to use the project in their classes, and we hope all members of the college community not directly involved in the creation of a teahouse will nevertheless be inspired by it."

Prasanna Vankina '18, a student organizer for the project, held a meeting with President Patton that same day to discuss the teahouse proposal. She said that Patton was very receptive to the idea and expressed wholehearted support. According to Vankina, Patton said that the teahouse will have to be considered within the master plan of the College, which also involves the town, but that she would help in any way she can to make this happen.

Pieter Broucke, Architecture Studies Track Head, Professor of History of Art and Architecture and Director of the Arts, also said that the master plan would be a factor. He said that the siting of the building should be part of a student-run study in which alternatives are explored and presented, and the view provided by the teahouse will be an important parameter.

Broucke said, "Before this goes anywhere, a much more detailed proposal needs to be formulated, and that will take time. That proposal would need to explore several sites, be in line with the master plan, be up to codes of fire, accessibility, safety, budget and also funding. Only then could we consider actually building a teahouse."

Broucke has also been a key player in this proposal since Takemoto's visit to Middlebury in 2011. He applauded the project for its relevance to many departments and academic disciplines. He said, "On the intersection between architectural design, architectural history, Japanese history and culture, and, as a 'public' work, it would visibly underscore the global identity of Middlebury."

Vankina said one of the most defining features of the proposal is the traditional Japanese process of construction, which uses a master-apprentice dynamic and emphasizes ways of learning. Brooks implemented this style of teaching in his Japanese boatbuilding course, which she took in Winter 2015. Reflecting on the experience, she noted the most important thing she learned was observation.

"It is such an intentional way to learn. We are so quick to ask questions in our lives — whether it's through Google or consulting a professor," said Vankina. "This class reminded me to slow down, and simply observe. I think that's the essence of this teahouse as well. How can we be more mindful of not only our learning, but also our being?"

MCAB's WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MIDDLEBURY?

Free Friday Film:

"The Man from U.N.C.L.E."

CIA agent Napoleon Solo successfully helps Gaby Teller defect to West Germany despite the intimidating opposition of KGB agent Illya Kuryakin. Later, all three unexpectedly find themselves working together in a joint mission to stop a private criminal organization from constructing their own nuclear bomb. All three must find a way to cooperate for the sake of world peace, even as they each pursue their own agendas.
FRIDAY AT 6 P.M. AND 9 P.M. IN DANA AUDITORIUM

You Won't Concert

With Josh Arnould on vocals and guitar and Raky Sastri on vocals and drums, indie rock duo You Won't performs highly expressive lyrics and unmistakable intimacy in their performance.
FRIDAY AT 9 P.M. IN GIFFORD GAMUT ROOM

Dialogue to Create a Living Wage For All College Staff Begins

By Annie Grayer
Local Editor

With Reporting by Nick Garber

In their annual announcement of objectives for the year, the Community Council identified "installing a living wage for all workers campus-wide" as of primary importance for their faculty and staff goals.

A living wage, according to the Harvard Living Wage Fact Sheet, is a wage that "takes into account the area-specific cost of living" so that people working in a given community can afford to live there comfortably.

Community Council member Dan Adamek '18, who first raised the issue, cited the College's pay scale as evidence that it was failing to pay its employees the wages required to live comfortably in Addison County.

"Somebody in Addison County can't have all of their basic needs fulfilled if they're making \$10 an hour working at the College," he said. "It's impossible."

Adamek made an astute observation on the disparity that exists between the cost of living estimated by the National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC) and the College's pay scale.

According to a study conducted by the NLIHC, in Vermont, the Fair Market Rent (FMR) for a two-bedroom apartment is \$1,007. That means that in order to afford rent and utilities, "a household must earn \$3,356 monthly or \$40,272 annually."

Conceptualizing this number in terms of a 40-hour workweek, 52 weeks per year, this level of income translates into an hourly wage of \$19.36.

According to Patrick Norton, the Vice President for Finance and Treasurer, the College uses the MIT living wage calculator to determine that the livable wage for a single adult living in Addison County is \$10.86 per hour.

This data assumes that people are working 40 hours per week, 52 weeks per year.

By further examining the Middlebury College Staff Pay Ranges report published by the College's office of Human Resources on July 1, 2015, the truth behind staffers wages at the College can be brought to light.

The report is separated into hourly and annual salaries. Then, it is broken down into two separate pay ranges. Within each pay range, there are four band/levels: specialist, management, operations and administrator. Each band/level is then further separated into the lower third, middle third, and upper third of possible pay scales. Each third is then further broken down into the ranges of minimum and maximum wages of that third.

In the lower third of the operations band/level, the lowest possible wages range from \$9.74 per hour to \$11.68 per hour.

According to Patrick Norton, Vice President for Finance and Treasurer, 26 full-time employees working in operations are making \$9.74 an hour. This means that currently, 26 employees fall short of the livable wage benchmark as stated by the MIT living wage calculator. Although the wage of \$9.74 an hour is above the state's legal minimum wage of \$9.15 an hour, it clearly does not meet livable wage standards.

In response to the pay ranges report, Patrick Norton stated, "While our lowest pay range OP1 has a starting salary of \$9.74 ... the average rate for that subset of workers is \$13.15 per hour, well above the starting salary amount and the relevant liv-

able wage benchmark."

Although only 26 full-time employees fall below the living wage standards according to the MIT living wage calculator, many more would fall below the living wage standards when using the NLIHC study.

According to the NLIHC study, the average wage for a renter in Addison County is \$11.83 per hour. Based on the College's pay ranges, staff workers working in operations who make \$9.74 an hour and \$11.68 an hour would fall below the average wage that a renter in Addison County makes.

The inconsistency that exists between the living wage data that the College and the Community Council provide suggests that the community needs to use comparable data moving forward, and needs to develop an agreeable definition of what a living wage in Addison County means.

Even though the College has met all of its legal requirements, many staff members have indicated that the salaries that they receive are not enough to comply with a living wage in Middlebury.

When asked about whether or not he thought he was paid enough, another anonymous member of the dining hall staff retorted, "No, absolutely not."

An anonymous member of the dining hall staff commented, "I actually bought a house in Brandon because I couldn't afford living in Middlebury."

"I had to get a second job to be able to live here," commented another anonymous dining hall staff member.

Before simply pointing fingers, it is important to acknowledge that some of the imbalance that exists between pay scales and cost of living is outside of the College's control.

For example, the Institute for Energy Research released data in 2010 that showed Vermont's electricity prices as 29 percent higher than the national average.

In addition, Sperling's Best Places, a website that ranks cost of living indices, states that cost of living in Middlebury is 19.60 percent higher than the U.S. average. This statistic takes into account grocery, health, housing, utilities and transportation costs for the town.

In light of the high cost of living in Vermont, *USA Today* ranked Vermont the fifth worst state to make a living.

Heather Pipino, the Development Coordinator for the Vermont Workers Center, which fights for the workers' rights in Vermont, highlights her frustrations over the current circumstances.

"It's been an untenable situation with people not being able to afford the high cost of living here in Vermont," she explained.

Although there are certain constraints that make creating a living wage difficult to achieve, the College is situated in a unique position to make positive change.

Through the study "The Economic Impact of Middlebury College" conducted by Northern Economic Consulting Inc. in November 2014, the central role that the College plays in the town of Middlebury and in Addison County is evident.

Middlebury College is the eight largest employer in Vermont and provides one out of every ten jobs in Middlebury. In 2011, the College was responsible for creating 437 jobs in Vermont above the 1,983 jobs it created in Addison County.

In addition, about 45 percent of the College's payroll goes to town residents. Explained another way, in 2011, wages paid by the College accounted for at least 17 percent of the income of Middlebury

residents.

Given its status as a huge economic force, many believe that the College has an obligation to support the local area.

"It is illogical," Adamek said, "for a college with institutional goals of positive global engagement to pay its workers less than a living wage."

"I saw a wonderful op-ed that Laurie Patton wrote in the *Addison County Independent* about positive community engagement," Adamek continued, "and I don't think there's anything that's more positive community engagement than paying those who work for your institution a living wage."

Tiff Chang '17.5, the Council's student co-chair, agreed.

"It's one of the most basic things we can do at the College to affect change," she said, "and it's just so simple compared to anything else we could address."

Chang, who thinks about Community Council through the lens of inclusivity, also added, "based on the current system, we have failed to be inclusive of the entire College community."

Further, Heather Pipino commented, "I think the Middlebury community should hold the College to a higher standard and make sure that the people that working there are able to afford to live in Middlebury and contribute to the community."

Comparing the concerns from workers themselves with the College's recent efforts to address these concerns, it seems that there is still a lot of work to be done. There still remains confusion and frustration over how raises are distributed.

According to one anonymous dining hall staff member, raises range from 2.5-2.75 percent of their annual salary.

In response, another anonymous dining hall staff worker added, "I think most of us think we should get a higher raise here. I mean come on, wouldn't you think it would be higher?"

A third anonymous dining hall staff worker continued by saying, "They tell us every year how well we are doing and how we are under budget and saving money, but our raises won't ever go up."

"They tell us great job, but here, have this little bit," he added.

From the College's perspective, raising wages is something taken very seriously.

Tim Spears, Vice President for Administration and Professor of American Studies, created a blog titled "Across Campus," which is meant to update the College community on administrative projects. On February 4, 2011, Spears published a three-part post that detailed the efforts behind the Revising the Staff Salary Increase Program.

For starters, Spears wrote that the College has a stated goal of "paying staff in the top 20 percent of the market for their jobs."

Spears then explained how the College reorganized its compensation structure in 2006. First, Human Resources arranged similar positions into their own band and level, and calculated the minimum, midpoint and maximum of each grouping's salary.

Spears wrote, "when the SRC (Staffing Wages Committee) and Wage and Salary Committee reviewed the spectrum of staff salaries [in 2011] it discovered that 808 employees were at or below the midpoint of their salary ranges; 366 were between the midpoint and the maximum; and 118 were at the maximum. (Note that these 1292 employees also include part-time workers.)"

"In order to move more employees in the lower half of the salary range toward the midpoint," Spears wrote, "the committee realized that it would need to find a way of redistributing the funds going to the top of range."

Patrick Norton reiterated the validity of the Revising the Staff Salary Increase Program by clarifying that the program's key principles are, "(1) recognizing individual performance, as determined through an annual performance summary (APS) process and (2) providing greater opportunity for individuals to move up within the salary range for their position."

Staff workers who commented for this article found the redistribution of funds unfair.

One anonymous dining hall staff worker commented, "The hiring wage goes up about what the raise is and so if someone has been here ten years, and then some new person gets hired and they're making only 10 cents less than you, it's very frustrating."

Another anonymous dining hall staff worker echoed his co-workers sentiments.

"Some of us, you know, may have 15-20 years of experience, if not more," he said. "That guy coming off the street, that has maybe two years of experience, is making pretty much exactly what I'm making."

In addition, staff workers felt that raises based on performance were nonexistent.

"I also feel," one dining hall staff worker lamented, "that there should be some sort of discussion about perhaps merit wages where I work better than the next guy, why should that guy that doesn't work as hard as I do get the same raise that I'm getting, or a bigger one because he's making less? That's a little frustrating."

What workers are responding to might simply be the College's effort to rectify the imbalance that may exist within a certain pay scale. Although the College's initiative to create equality within a certain band is important, it clearly has the potential to marginalize the efforts of a hardworking, dedicated individual.

Despite the overarching complaints about not receiving a living wage, staff members were sure to commend the College's generous benefits package.

"I can't complain about the benefits," one anonymous staff member said. "I'm 45, and they are contributing 15% [towards my retirement]. I mean that's huge."

Overall, Chang said that she believed the implementation of a living wage would be generally uncontroversial, explaining, "everyone I've mentioned it to gets behind it very quickly."

Adamek echoed her sentiments. "I've never heard a single person not say, 'Yeah, we're a wealthy institution and people should be able to live on the wages that we pay them. That makes sense, it's normal. Wait, we don't do that?'"

Most importantly, both Chang and Adamek stressed their hope that any recommendation the Council may make going forward would be paired with constant dialogue and collaboration with the administration.

Heather Pipino agrees that the answer must be community based.

"It's good to have faculty, students and staff all standing together," Pipino said, "I mean that's the way we win things, is when people stand with each other."

Ms. Pipino was also quick to add, "We [the Vermont Workers Center] would love to find out how to be more involved, how to be more supportive."

"The conditions are not easy," Pipino said. "But it's when we stand together, and when communities stand to support workers living right in their town that we have our strength and when we can push back against this race to the bottom."

This report includes anonymous interviews with three dining hall staff members. It does not reflect the official position of Middlebury College staff. They were granted anonymity so they could speak candidly about their experiences.

"Somebody in Addison County can't have all of their basic needs fulfilled if they're making ten dollars an hour working at the College."

DAN ADAMEK '18
COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEMBER

"It's good to have faculty, students and staff all standing together. I mean that's the way we win things, is when people stand with each other."

HEATHER PIPINO
DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR FOR VERMONT WORKERS CENTER

DINING HALL EMPLOYEE

"I actually bought a house in Brandon because I couldn't afford a house in Middlebury."

"We have failed to be inclusive of the entire College community."

TIFF CHANG '17.5
STUDENT COUNCIL CO-CHAIR

Burlington Residents Condemn KKK Flier

By Martina Berger
Contributing Writer

As a Burlington high school student ascended her front on Oct. 29, she noticed a inconspicuous white poster taped to her front door. That evening, the African-American student had been at a meeting for a non-profit advocacy group called Rights and Democracy, which works towards building a more robust democracy in Vermont. "Join the Klan and Save Our Land!" the flier read.

The sign also included a drawing of a Ku Klux Klan horseman, classically outfitted in a white sheet against a backdrop of both the confederate flag and the colonial American flag. The student looked at her neighbors' homes. No white supremacist posters decorated their doors.

Terrified, the student called her father, who contacted local police. They politely informed him that such a poster was merely an example of "hate speech," for which police response was not possible. It wasn't until James Haslam, the Executive Director of Rights and Democracy, personally reached out to the state Attorney General that the Burlington police began to "take the incident seriously" and opened a criminal investigation.

For their part, Rights and Democracy organized a community meeting, rallying together criminal justice advocates as well as other area non-profits such as Vermonters for Criminal Justice Reform, Justice for All, Peace and Justice Center and Vermont Interface Action. It was at this point that a second African-American woman came forward, announcing that she had also received a similar poster on her door. She would go on to speak at the meeting, which included a press release and was attended by over 100 people.

According to Haslam, there has been a "strong response" from the Burlington community to the incident. He cites a "broad range of groups," including the United Electrical Workers Union, that have

embraced the victims and are working to ensure this type of incident "won't happen again." A petition entitled "An Open Letter Against Hate," popped up online in the days after the incident, and has since received almost 800 signatures. A rally on Thursday, Nov. 5 attracted over 400 attendees.

"We can tolerate a lot of things but hate is not one of them," Haslam says. "The [Burlington] community is sending a loud message that such things are not welcome here."

Similar episodes have occurred in the past several months. Recently, an area resident assaulted his black neighbor while yelling racial slurs. Police did not fully investigate.

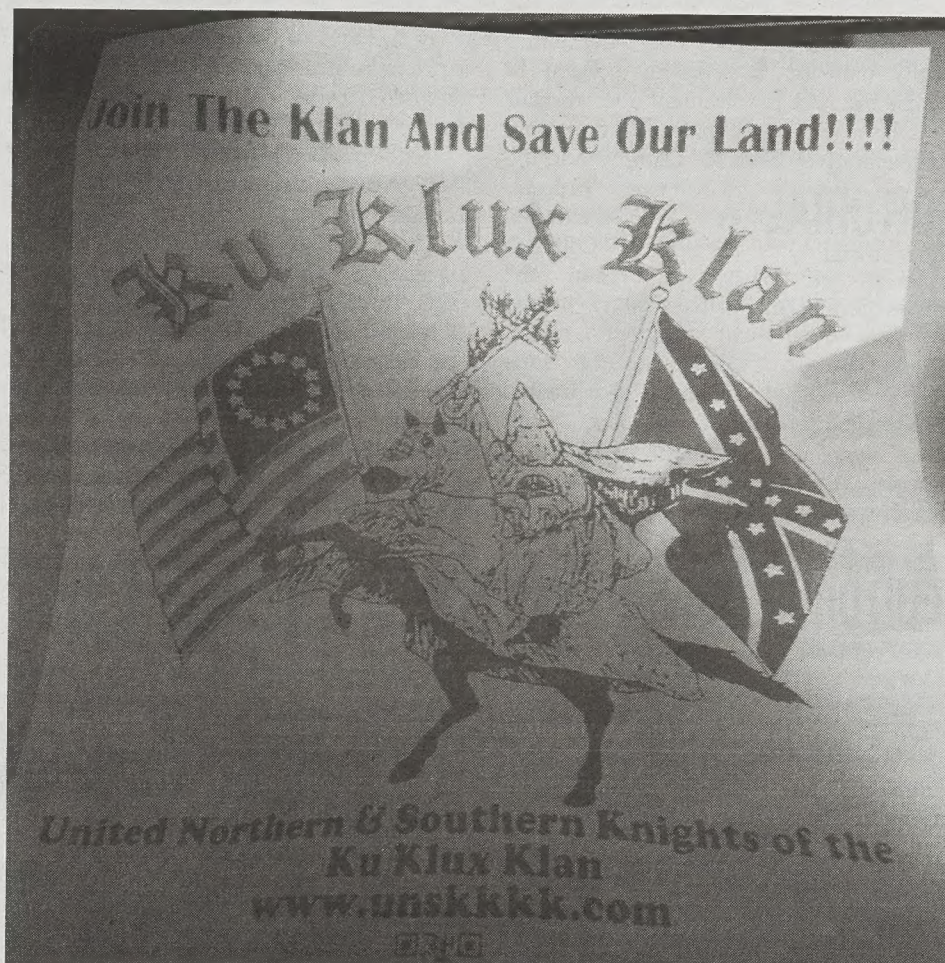
According to Rights and Democracy, black citizens in Vermont are ten times more likely to be incarcerated than their white counterparts. They are six times more likely to get pulled over. Considering Vermont's reputation for being very progressive, Haslam says the state has yet to "walk the walk."

In light of Vermont's troubled racial history, the slow response to the KKK flier is particularly alarming. If it weren't for the advocacy of Rights and Democracy, Burlington police would not have been compelled to open an investigation.

Jas Wheeler, a black and Mexican resident of Burlington who moved here from Cleveland, Ohio, echoes this sentiment. In her opinion, the supportive reaction of Burlington residents is not indicative of Vermont's overall attitude when it comes to race.

"The violent and aggressive racism that I have faced here is the worst I have ever encountered," she says. In a state that is "95 percent white," black and brown people are carrying the weight of the "progressive, neoliberal image" that Vermont touts.

Haslam acknowledges that similar instances have blown over in the past. Meetings are held and plans of action are recommended, only for everything to be forgotten after a few weeks or months.



ALY JOHNSON-KURTS

The KKK Flier, pictured above, drew condemnation from a variety of Burlington groups.

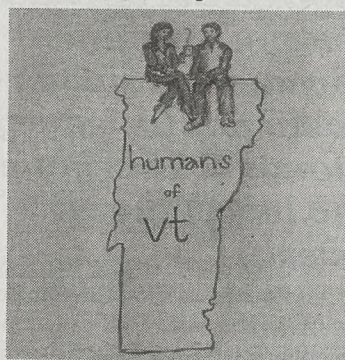
Yet he and others seem remarkably committed. Beyond simply responding to individual expressions of hate, Haslam is advocating for a new agenda for Vermont, one that addresses the biases inherent in law enforcement and local government when it comes to issues of race. His plan includes innovations in training and reform of police procedures, as well as alternatives to the police force in the event that their response to a racial incident is inadequate. "Undoing racism is going to take a lot," he admits, pointing out that "far too many people" experience "severe amounts of racism"

on a day-to-day basis. "This was not an isolated incident, and we need our institutions to be accountable to our community," Haslam said.

On Nov. 19, Haslam and other advocates will be visiting Middlebury in order to bring this discussion to new areas of Vermont. Furthermore, on Dec. 5 there will be a Rights and Democracy summit in Burlington, where candidates for governor and progressive legislators will participate in a conference to address the issue of institutionalized racism in the state.

Rustin Swenson 'Inspired' Sanders' Candidacy

By Wendy Walcoff
Contributing Writer



Last weekend at Champlain Orchards, Humans of Vermont met Rustin Swenson, a Norwegian turned Vermont-er, and the self-proclaimed reason Bernie Sanders is running for Presidential office. We sought out Swenson for his refined taste in fashion, as he was adorned in a fine grey suit with a brightly colored vest, shirt and tie all of varying patterns. His hat read: "Swenson for Governor," and his wide rimmed glasses seemed subtle compared to his wild white hair. He set the tone immediately as we approached him, reaching into his vest pocket and asking, "What do you want? To see my green card?" He laughed and began chatting away in a thick accent; words rolled off his tongue with quick wit as he first told us about his wife, his "favorite person in Vermont."

"When I met my wife, wow," he said. "She was driving an old Saab. My kind of car, right? She's really fantastic." When Swenson's wife later came up to him during our interview, he introduced us.

"This is my lovely wife," he said.

"Maisie, they're interviewing weirdos." She tried to urge him along, saying it was time to leave, but instead he held his ground and wrapped his arm around her. "This is my claim to fame. I'm her husband, you know?"

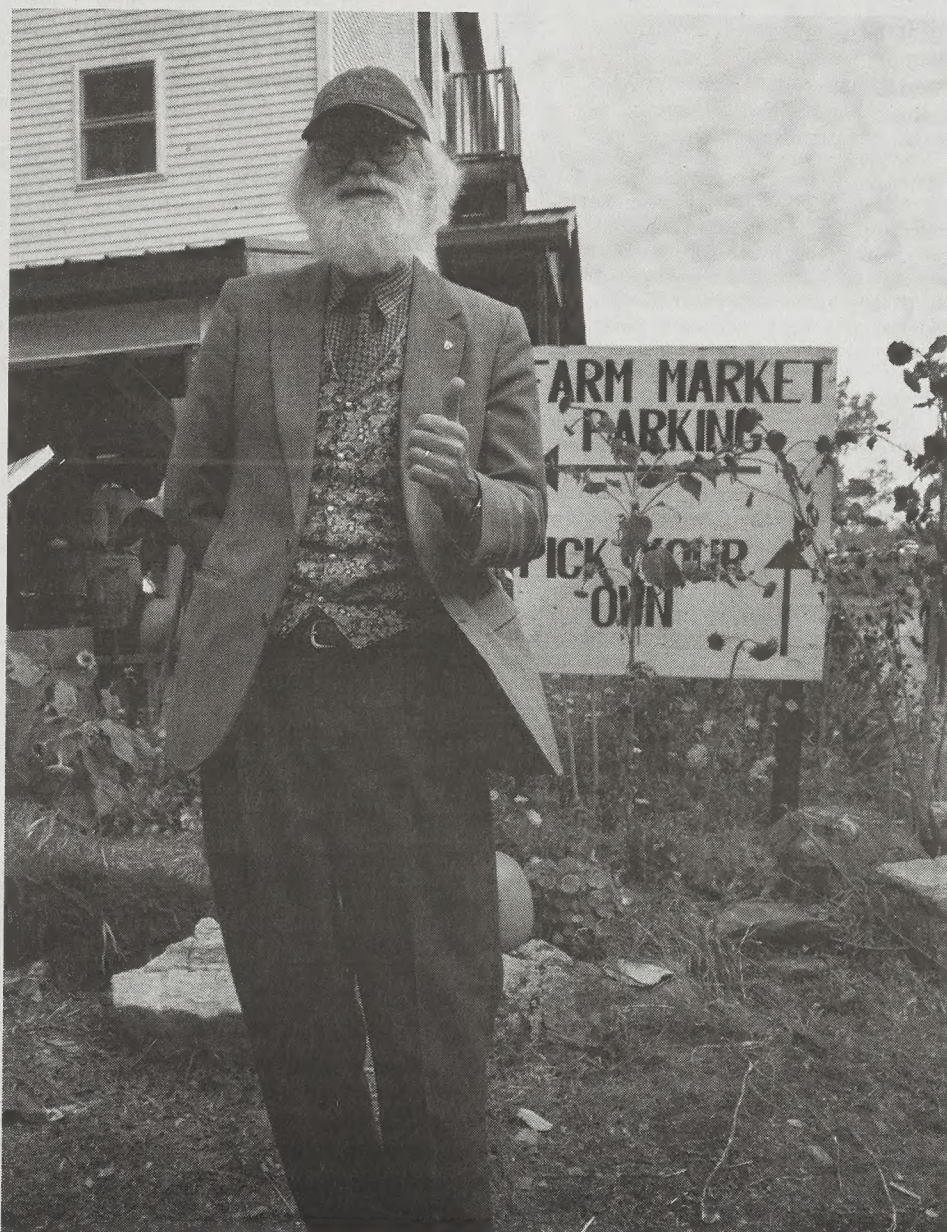
The conversation turned towards his passion for historic Vermont, as he opened up about working to restore old local buildings.

"Vermont's future lies in the restoration of its past history," he said. "It's our past tradition that made us what we are." He continued to explain his investment in the state, listing the numerous articles he has written in support of protecting various sites. But we soon discovered that where Swenson truly shines is in his unique governmental perspective.

"Every year I go to the Montpelier Capital 4th of July Parade," he began, his hands in motion. "In fact, last year, at the end of the parade, there was Bernie Sanders just standing around, and I said 'Bernie, I've been waiting ten years for you! When are you going to run for office? I can't wait around forever! I'm not getting any younger, you know?' and he said 'Well, I'm not either.'" Rustin placed his hands on his hips, acting out the conversation for his audience.

"Maybe I'm the reason why he's running right now. You give me credit for that, okay?" He paused briefly before continuing, "I did run for governor last year. I got 35 votes. I didn't run to win I just ran to make my point. I ran on the Coffee Party. Forget this Tea Party, I ran on the Coffee Party. Everybody gets a free cup of coffee. You like that, yeah?"

Yeah, we like it. Coffee Party 2016; vote Rustin Swensen.



WENDY WALCOFF

OPINIONS

The Middlebury Campus

Students Need a Seat at the Table

This past Friday, the Middlebury faculty met for its monthly session to discuss the AAL requirement and whether or not to renew the pass/D/fail option. Representatives from the *Campus* and the

EDITORIAL

The editorial represents the official opinion of *The Middlebury Campus* as decided by the editorial board.

SGA were present, as is sanctioned by the College's bylaws. When the conversation turned to student stress, members of the faculty expressed discomfort with having students in

the room. A vote to move into an executive session was called. After a close vote of 45

to 33 in favor of the executive session — which has only happened a few times in the past two decades — all students as well as the non-voting faculty were asked to leave.

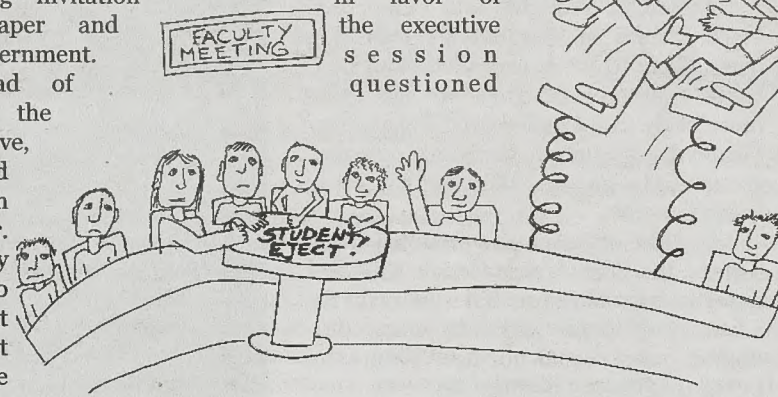
The editorial board, in addition to the SGA, strongly disagrees with the faculty's decision to go into executive session. We believe that it violates the ethic of engagement that President Patton has called for. The decision also reflects a lack of respect for the student perspective. It was clear that students were not wanted at the meeting even prior to its onset; the SGA faced pushback when they informed the faculty that they would be attending. They were only allowed to attend after pointing out that student bylaws explicitly offer a standing invitation to the newspaper and student government. However, instead of engaging with the student perspective, professors voted to have them leave all together. When the faculty is meeting to discuss issues that primarily affect students, the active choice to not have student

representation in the room is nothing short of paternalistic.

One of the faculty's primary apprehensions expressed at the time of the vote was for student confidentiality. Professors were sharing anonymous stories about students to illustrate their arguments on pass/fail and were concerned that it would be easy to decode which students were being discussed. Certain members of the faculty wanted students to leave out of

deference to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), which protects the privacy of student educational records. The reality that student records were not involved and, even if they had been, sharing them with the rest of the faculty would also be in violation of FERPA, precludes that justification for executive session. Moreover, students are frequently trusted with confidential information, such as on the judicial board, and are capable of behaving in a professional manner. It is concerning that the faculty does not extend this confidence to the *Campus* and the SGA.

One of the 45 faculty members in favor of the executive session questioned



JENA RITCHY

whether the *Campus* should have access to these meetings at all. Senior administrative meetings and the Board of Trustees are not subject to this greater level of scrutiny, so why should the faculty meetings be any different? We strongly disagree with this analysis. Our goal should be to work towards more student engagement rather than eliminate all engagement for the sake of consistency. Professors should not see this as "scrutiny." The *Campus*

is not looking to make the faculty look bad in order to get a good story; we are not interested in blindly sensationalizing sensitive information and complex arguments for publicity's sake. Though students and faculty bring decidedly different perspectives to the table, we have one thing in common: we want what's best for Middlebury. The *Campus* can engage productively with the faculty on important topics. If a multiplicity of perspectives are taken into consideration, better and more inclusive decisions can be made.

We see potential for this incident to be constructive. While we do not agree with the faculty's decision, we understand that a lack of clear guidelines may have caused some uneasiness with having the press in the room. Moving forward, we propose that there is a specific policy regarding what is on the record and what is off the record so that members of the faculty can express their opinions without fear of publication.

Faculty members teach their students how to approach complex arguments and situations with care. They must trust their students to apply these very skills in settings like faculty meetings. It is essential that the students' publication and its government are present for these important conversations. It is important to give students a voice, and allowing students to speak at faculty meetings is the most effective and efficient way for students to share their insights. That said, we still understand and support the need to use executive sessions in compelling circumstances, but that decision should be made thoughtfully and not gratuitously. Students and faculty must find a way to work together and live up to our community's goal of transparent governance.

The Middlebury Campus

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Remembering Debs

Last Thursday, film enthusiasts and our friends across the pond celebrated Guy Fawkes. He wasn't the greatest guy to grace the planet, nor was he particu-

POVERTY PROSE

Travis Sanderson '19
is from Las Vegas, NV

larly successful in his endeavor to blow up government. But he became iconic. He's a symbol for resisting government oppression; thus, he's especially popular among anarchists and libertarians. Or at least his mask is. It's safe to say that most of the people

"Eugene Debs was a remarkable man. By all accounts humble, he was nonetheless possessed by righteous fury directed at all oppressors."

from sea to shining sea who noticed the holiday were fans of *V for Vendetta*. It's equally sure that they inundated their friends with the order to, "remember, remember the Fifth of November."

I happen to agree. I think we should remember that specific date, although maybe not for the same reason. Nov 5 is significant for a distinctly American person, too. It's the birthday of a patriot who devoted his life to the cause of the ordinary people. Starting out as a high school dropout, he rose through the ranks of rural Indiana as a fireman, a grocer and a magazine editor. At the same time, he took business classes at night after work and managed to be elected to city clerk and assemblyman. This is notable, but his rags to riches story didn't finish there. He's also one of the founders of the

American labor movement. He started the first major industrial union and stood vocally against the White House in civil disobedience against the abuse of workers. He helped to successfully win the eight-hour work-day, workplace safety, unemployment benefits and Social Security — all now staples of American life. He even ran for President without any major party support... five different times. And he was one of the only pacifist voices in the hysteria of the Great War, which earned him a spot behind bars and the hatred of President Wilson.

Eugene Debs was a remarkable man. By all accounts humble, he was nonetheless possessed by righteous fury directed at all oppressors. His presence was intoxicating; his language compelling. He compared economic barons to feudal lords, railing that the "master class has had all to gain and nothing to lose while the subject class has had nothing to gain and all to lose." The rhetoric matches any of the great orators of American history. John F. Kennedy used the same device as Debs forty years later in a speech now much more well-known. That type of influence may have something to do with how relevant and timeless his fight remains. In the speech that marked him for prison, he accused leaders of wanting "to make the world safe for democracy." I dare say we recognize that particular collection of words.

Debs' influence cannot be overstated. Even beyond his rhetorical impact, he has inspired the agendas of many prominent movements and persuasions. His legacy belongs to everyone who has endured poverty. Even his idea that the individual only manifests the cause, the fight itself, has endured. Bernie Sanders advocates for a political revolution of the masses, all people who benefit from a fairer system, but he doesn't stress him-

"Debs' influence cannot be overstated. Even beyond his rhetorical impact, he has inspired the agendas of many prominent movements and persuasions. His legacy belongs to everyone who has endured poverty."

self. "This campaign is not about Bernie Sanders," he has said. There is no doubt our neighborhood senator is aware of the similarity of his words to Debs', since he produced a documentary on the labor patriot when he was younger. The massive movement that he has stirred up also harkens to Debs's support base of ordinary people. Two hundred different school chapters across the nation, starting with our very own, work tirelessly on Bernie's campaign for "political revolution." No other candidate in the race has inspired the same degree of grassroots support from ordinary people. For that reason, Bernie Sanders epitomizes the modern influence of Eugene Debs and his relevance to today.

While the Fifth of November is usually a celebration of Guy Fawkes, maybe it's time to think of the day with more depth. We should broaden its association to other anti-bad government figures like Eugene Debs. It may be ironic, since I doubt most libertarians and anarchists would support the labor leader of old, but that shouldn't stop us.

There's something in the Fifth of November for people of all political persuasions.

THE STATE OF OUR ENDOWMENT IS STRONG

I read with interest the opinion piece by Ethan Brady, “The State of the Endowment,” and I feel it’s important to address some of what Ethan discussed in his piece and to provide some important context

READER OP-ED

Patrick Norton is Vice President for Finance and Treasurer

to make up their own minds.

Yes, the one-year return for Middlebury’s endowment in fiscal year 2015 was 6.9 percent. But “terrible” is hardly a word I would use to describe it. Preliminary data from the 2015 NACUBO-Commonfund Study of Endowments (NCSE)

show that educational endowments’ investment returns averaged 2.4 percent in FY 2015. Larger endowments (such as Middlebury’s) posted the highest returns for the 2015 fiscal year, as institutions with assets over \$1 billion reported an average return of 4.2 percent. The 2015 study is preliminary and will be final in January 2016, but our 6.9 percent looks pretty good when compared to this data. Also, the return on investment for our endowment was 6.9 percent, which equates to \$74 million (not the \$19.1 million Ethan stated). The \$19.1 million number is, rather, the net change in the endowment, which is determined by the investment return plus new gifts less the annual payout from the endowment that supports many operating and capital needs

of the institution.

Furthermore, it is worth pointing out that endowments are designed to exist in perpetuity—as are the institutions they support. Therefore, the most meaningful way to look at and evaluate endowment returns is over a longer time horizon than one year. Over the past 10 years, Middlebury’s annualized return was 8.7 percent, which outperformed the passive benchmark of 6.9 percent over that period. Our active management has outperformed the passive benchmark by 180 basis points a year over 10 years. That is substantial outperformance and is in the top quartile of returns when compared to other colleges and universities. Over the past 10 years we have seen our endowment grow by \$400 million, thanks to the generos-

ity of alumni and friends of Middlebury PLUS the expert investment management of the Middlebury endowment. And don’t forget we had a thing called the “Great Recession” during that 10-year period.

In addition, no evaluation of an endowment performance is worthwhile if it doesn’t factor in risk metrics. Our investment philosophy is rooted in both long-term thinking and risk mitigation. That means that we aren’t likely to be among the very highest performers in an up year. But it also means that we generally will perform better than most in poor years. This approach has served us well. It has ensured that our endowment continues to grow and meets our spending needs for current students and faculty and future generations of students and faculty.

LAZY LIBERALS WILL LOSE IN 2016

There’s too much at stake in the 2016 election for those on the left to get complacent.

That was the message we came away with after gathering at the release of David Brock’s book *Killing the Messenger: The Right-Wing Plot to Derail Hillary and Hijack Your Government*. Mr. Brock — author, journalist and former “Right-Wing Hit Man” who saw the light — explained how the media perpetuates mis-

READER OP-ED

Rebecca Hicks ’15 is from Costa Rica
Martin Fowler ’15 is from Norway

information about Secretary Hillary Clinton and, in particular, her use of a personal email account. Brock suggested that part of the problem is that “Lazy Liberals” allow such falsities to remain in the public sphere by failing to counter blatant lies, or worse, swallowing these unsubstantiated lies themselves without fact-checking.

As an example, when Brock mentioned a recent Justice Department statement that

acknowledged Clinton’s legal right to delete personal, non-work-related emails from her account without agency supervision, several people around us were stunned. They whispered to one another, “When did they say that,” or, “I didn’t know that.” This audience consisted of several active, generous and experienced Democrats, many of whom are devoted supporters of Clinton’s presidential campaign. Even so, they were unaware of recent and fairly important developments concerning the phony email “scandal” that has been drawing obsessive media coverage for months. Ironically, Brock’s criticism of “Lazy Liberals” rang true in that very room of committed progressives.

Clearly, Lazy Liberalism simply isn’t going to cut it as we move into the 2016 presidential race. There is far too much at stake to be unknowingly herded towards the right by conservatives and an all-too-willing press.

As Brock explains in his book, much of this herding occurs through print and television media channels, as part of a carefully orchestrated flow of scandalous stories welling up from small, local news outlets. Local

conservative mouthpieces mix fiction with fact in an attempt to smear their progressive opponents. These stories are then recycled in more mainstream news outlets on cable TV and end up making national headlines. The overall discourse thus gets shifted to the right, and public perceptions of liberal politicians are morphed accordingly.

The fact that the room of highly educated and plugged-in people at Brock’s book event were unaware of such major news is symptomatic of the fact that the mainstream media fails to cover the facts in a straight-forward or honest manner — if at all. Storytelling, it seems, has overtaken accuracy as journalists strive for attention in a crowded digital landscape.

We can’t let Fox News get us down — not when people like David Brock have been fighting this misinformation for years. Moreover, despondence is only going to hurt the progressive agenda in the 2016 race. What will help is an increasing number of Aggressive Progressives — the antidote to Lazy Liberals — ready to meet media distortion head-on, do their own research and counter false claims.

Aggressive Progressives do not base their view of Hillary’s “unlawful” email practices on a Fox News (or even NY Times) report; instead, they listen to and share the conclusions reached by the Justice Department. Aggressive Progressives do not get riled up by Carly Fiorina’s fervent anti-Planned Parenthood rhetoric used in reference to a graphic video; instead, they recognize that the video was intentionally and misleadingly edited to smear a good organization.

And Aggressive Progressives don’t just correct the record, they take one step further — they go on the offensive. Armed with the facts, Aggressive Progressives counter the false and bigoted right-wing discourse that has come to pollute even the most reputable mainstream media outlets.

Simply put, Lazy Liberals will lose in the 2016 election, but Aggressive Progressives might stand a chance.

Rebecca Hicks and Martin Fowler recently graduated from Middlebury. Rebecca is working for a non-profit focused on youth health education. Martin is a writer based in Brooklyn.

The Need for Thoughtful Comedy

Recently posters advertising an improv show, an athletic event and more have been circulating around campus with jokes evoking marginalized identities — specifically race, class and ability — and their corresponding stereotypes. These posters have been met with opposition from marginalized people, as they have revealed these organizations’ lack of attention to the minority experience at Middlebury. It

VOICES ON DIVERSITY

Jasmine Ross ’16 is from New York, NY and is writing on behalf of the Institutional Diversity Committee.

is these incidents that have caused us to question humor at Middlebury — specifically, racist humor at Middlebury. It is through the examination of racist humor that we are able to start exploring classist, ableist and other marginalized humor.

So what is racist humor? In the article “Racist Humor,” Luvelt Anderson distinguishes between racist and racially insensitive humor by defining racially insensitive humor as humor that “lacks an aim to subvert the associated stereotype or has a subverting aim but cannot reasonably expect audience uptake of that aim.” Racist humor “... wrongly harms the target

in virtue of that person’s membership in a particular racial group or the speaker is motivated by a malevolent attitude or one of disregard.”

It is unclear whether these recent posters are racially insensitive or racist based on Anderson’s definitions. However, it is clear that these posters did not do an adequate job of subverting the stereotypes that they evoked. Furthermore, it is clear that these posters were racially offensive based on the organizations’ refusal to consider the impact that their posters might have on students of color. Specifically, Latino students. The poster that this Committee is focusing on is from an improv group and its evocation of Latino stereotypes.

The improv group’s poster featured a picture of a man with the words “Jane’s First Kiss Was Her Doorman José” with José saying “Gross. Nope.” The fact that Jane is having her first kiss in this joke causes us to assume that Jane is young. Thus, the surface level joke of this poster is that Jane’s first kiss was with her doorman rather than someone who was her age

— presumably. The surface level part of the joke is furthered when it realized that Jane did not have her first kiss with a boyfriend, girlfriend or someone who she was sexually interested in. The poster leads us to believe that her first kiss was most likely void of attraction — something that one would not hope for their first kiss to be.

“It is through the examination of racist humor that we are able to start exploring classist, ableist and other marginalized humor.”

However, when one looks deeper at the joke and considers that Jane’s first kiss was with someone who was working for her parents and someone who held the door open for her, this joke becomes more sinister. Could this poster be insinuating that it

is also funny that Jane’s first kiss was with José because José is a doorman of a socioeconomic class that is lower than Jane’s family? Is it funny that Jane’s first kiss was with José because José is Latino?

Additionally by saying “Gross. Nope.” José shows his reluctance to be kissed by Jane. But if José is reluctant to kiss Jane, why did he kiss her? We are inclined to wonder if despite not wanting to kiss Jane, José’s position of servitude to Jane’s family made him obligated to kiss her.

It does not matter if this improv group intended to evoke racial stereotypes in a

malevolent manner. The stereotypes that this poster evoked were not subverted. That places this joke within the realm of racially insensitive humor. Additionally, this poster stereotyped a racial group. The Committee believes that this was due to the improv group’s disregard rather than malevolence. Regardless, this also places this poster within Anderson’s definition of racist humor.

It does not matter if the “Jane” that this poster is referring to actually had a doorman named José. It does not matter if he was her real first kiss. Although this joke might have a private context, it was put out into the public. Thus, it is subject to public criticism. Additionally, as a joke meant for public consumption, it has a responsibility to the public. This improv group should have thought about how this poster might be negatively received and how it might add to the marginalization that Latinos experience at Middlebury. All groups on campus should be aware of how their use of humor in advertisement might affect those who are most vulnerable. Although humor is often displaced from reality through its use of absurdity, it is important to remember that identity affects everything. Nothing is untouched by race, class and other identities. Humor is no different.

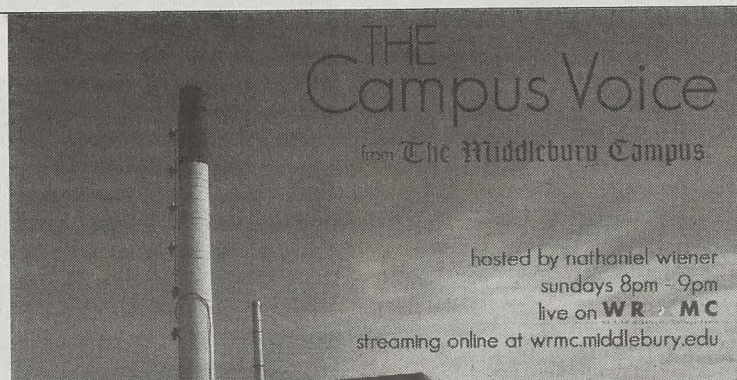
*Name has been changed to avoid the perception that this article is singling out one person.

READER RESPONSE

The Otter Nonsense Players is an improv comedy troupe on campus.

seriously. We look forward to reflecting and engaging in future dialogue.”

“We apologize that we offended with our poster. We care about the role of comedy in discourse on this campus. As intentional members of the community, we take this issue



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ARE YOU PONDERING WHAT I'M PONDERING?

David Mnitsa '17 is from Beverly Hills, CA

I recently read Heinrich von Kleist's short essay, "On the Marionette Theatre," in which he recounts a conversation with a dancer friend, known as Mr. C. To von Kleist's surprise, Mr. C expresses delight in watching marionettes. Von Kleist "had regarded the handling of marionettes as something rather spiritless, approximate to the turning of the crank that plays a hand organ." On the contrary, Mr. C responds that these puppets have much to teach us about grace and elegance. Indeed, they typify the standard of grace to which human dancers strive. Marionettes, according to Mr. C, have two advantages. First, its appendages follow the center of gravity in pure ellipses: "the limbs... are what they ought to be: dead, mere pendula." Second, they are unbound by gravity. They need only pause briefly on the earth, whereas humans are inescapably stuck on the ground: "we need the earth: for rest, for repose from the effort of the dance...and we can do no better than disguise our moments of rest as much as possible." Von Kleist still resisted the idea that a doll could dance more gracefully than a human. Mr. C replied: "It is simply impossible for a human being to reach the grace of the jointed doll. Only a god can duel with matter on this level, and it is at this point that the two ends of the ring-formed world grasp each other."

The doll, because of its complete lack of freedom, enjoys a greater freedom than humans do. It is not held back by limitations imposed by self-consciousness. Only a god, a being of supreme consciousness, can match the grace of the puppet whose actions are entirely determined. Unlike the other animals in Eden, humans ate from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil, and they acquired consciousness. Adam and Eve were then aware of their nudity. In paradise, there can be no free, moral thought.

Humans, not the puppets of Eden but not quite an almighty god, occupy a tragic limbo in which they are aware enough to despair, yet not enough to be free of their animalistic impulses. Freedom is slavery. Ignorance is

strength. In the Garden of Eden, the two extremes of consciousness meet, "the two ends of the ring-formed world grasp each other." A supremely conscious god and animals bereft of it can cohabitate.

This minimal consciousness is the irresolvable conflict between passion and reason inherent in each of us.

The twentieth century saw the culminations of two attempts to reconcile this conflict. Fascism sought to realize the hope of passion subjugating reason — the attempt to return to the Garden of Eden as an animal, rid of our consciousness. Nazism glorified the eruption of will to power — pure impulse. Hitler deemed race war to be not just an element, but the essence of humanity. He thought that Jews, a pestilence on mankind, try to pervert the natural order through the use of ideas. All ideas as such are devious ways of enabling the inferior to prevail over the superior. In a life characterized primarily by scarcity, cooperation among races is unnatural. The weak must be beaten, else the strong will perish. Hitler adamantly rejected the prospect that scientific progress could increase agricultural efficiency to the point of making coexistence feasible. Rational proposals were nothing more than Jewish perfidy. Mr. C tells von Kleist of a young dancer with a "wonderful quality of physical grace." But, once his brain fully matured and acquired consciousness, "one by one his charms fell away from him." We are so fascinated with youth, with the innocence of childhood, because they have yet to consume the fruit from the Tree of Knowledge.

Communism took a different approach, the attempt to conquer passion with reason. We hope that by acquiring divine consciousness, we can re-enter the Garden of Eden — this time, not as an animal, but as a god. Von Kleist declared that "we must wander about the world, and see if, perhaps, we can find an unguarded back door." Fully consuming the fruits from the tree of knowledge — achieving the communist utopia — would mark the last chapter in the history of the world." Marx professed to have discovered the laws of history. This historical determinism — the apotheosis of reason — would reforge our bonds and finally relieve humanity of freedom. By achieving divine consciousness, we would be effectively deprived of any consciousness. The complete freedom of a god would grant us access to the marionette's enviable state of slavery. Such is the allure of Marxism and monotheisms — all totalitarian creeds. They promise to shepherd

us along the path to surrendering our freedom in exchange for an omniscient deity that controls every aspect of our existence. We do not want to live in a world of freedom, but yearn to live in a panopticon, in which every act is not a product of choice, but is determined — either by God or the laws of history.

Steven Weinberg has remarked that "the more the universe seems comprehensible, the more it also seems pointless." The unprecedented destruction of the last century was the product of our attempts to use the awesome power of science to overcome a reality whose meaninglessness was exposed by science. But, these attempts are doomed to fail, because the problems of human nature are innately insoluble. Yet, today I see these Gnostic remnants manifest as a faith in science. However, no matter how much knowledge we accumulate, Eden's back door will be perpetually beyond our grasp.

Science has done so much more to better our lives than religion has, and so the faith in it is that much easier to maintain. Our naïve faith in the inevitability of progress concerns me greatly. The serious danger of reflexively invoking such catechisms is all the more foreboding, because, free of conspicuous superstitions, scientism is a wolf in sheep's clothing. We walk blindfolded as always, except now we are armed with nuclear weapons and are destroying the Earth in our endeavor to control it.

When Marx commented on religion, his tone was not one of cynicism but one of sympathy. The full quote: "Religion is the sigh of the oppressed creature, the heart of a heartless world, and the soul of soulless conditions. It is the opium of the masses." He didn't regard religion simply as an opiate doled out by the elite to dupe — or dope — the masses into acquiescence. Rather, he understood that religion provided sincere hope of absolution for a fallen creature. (Of course, his proposal also failed). Unfortunately, addiction to illusions is an irresponsible way to live. Our endeavors to contort reality to our imagined utopias end only in ruinous failure. The best we can do is acknowledge our tragic condition and learn to somehow manage it and live with it.

Art allows us to play out these fantasies of a perfect world. Bach has been praised as the greatest musician. In particular, Christians hold him in high regard because his music came closest to resembling the perfect order of heaven. He managed to create music with 11 lines of harmony playing simultaneously.

Bach best imitated God in creating order from chaos. Of course, none of man's creations can compare to God's grace, because "we can do no better than disguise our moments of rest as much as possible." Our obsession with sprezzatura evinces our unquenchable desire to reject our freedom. We seek to mimic the marionette as best we can, but, our best is never good enough: "we look in vain for this quality in the majority of our dancers."

In reality, time moves in one direction and at one speed. In literature, time jumps forwards and backwards, it contracts and expands according to the wishes of its godly author. In reality, cause precedes effect. In literature, effect commands primacy. The author then concocts the causes necessary to bring about the predetermined effect. In our fictional realms, the means are subservient to some — in principle — knowable end. The laws of nature are twisted and warped in service of the author's design. The characters, like marionettes, have no freedom, and so have meaning. On the other hand, reality is indifferent to us. It continues as it does regardless of our protests or praise. We are free of any determined fate. What a cruel God to have condemned us to a life of uncertainty and futility. As W.H. Auden writes in "The More Loving One," "Looking up at the stars, I know quite well // That, for all they care, I can go to hell."

Art is supposed to reveal the fictions of our quixotic optimism, but it must also cloud our vision. If it attempts to present the invisible, it will fail in its cathartic mission. To be successful, it must give us the illusion of encroaching on truth, while actually guiding us through a perpetual maze. Imagine you are looking on an empty stage. The complete bareness will drive you insane, so you pull the curtain, hopefully not a drab one. Now the object of your sight is at least bearable. If someone asks you, "Is the stage empty?" at least you can profess agnosticism. You know that the stage is empty, but you cannot say so for certain. Art at once aims to reveal and to obscure. This paradox, as with all the others, should not surprise us, for they all follow naturally from the paradox of the human condition — the irredeemable conflict between passion and reason. As a child, I frequently asked, "What's the point of art? I just don't get it." Well, now it seems that not everything has to have a point, ultimately because nothing has a point. Some questions just don't have an answer. What is the color of jealousy? What is the meaning of it all?

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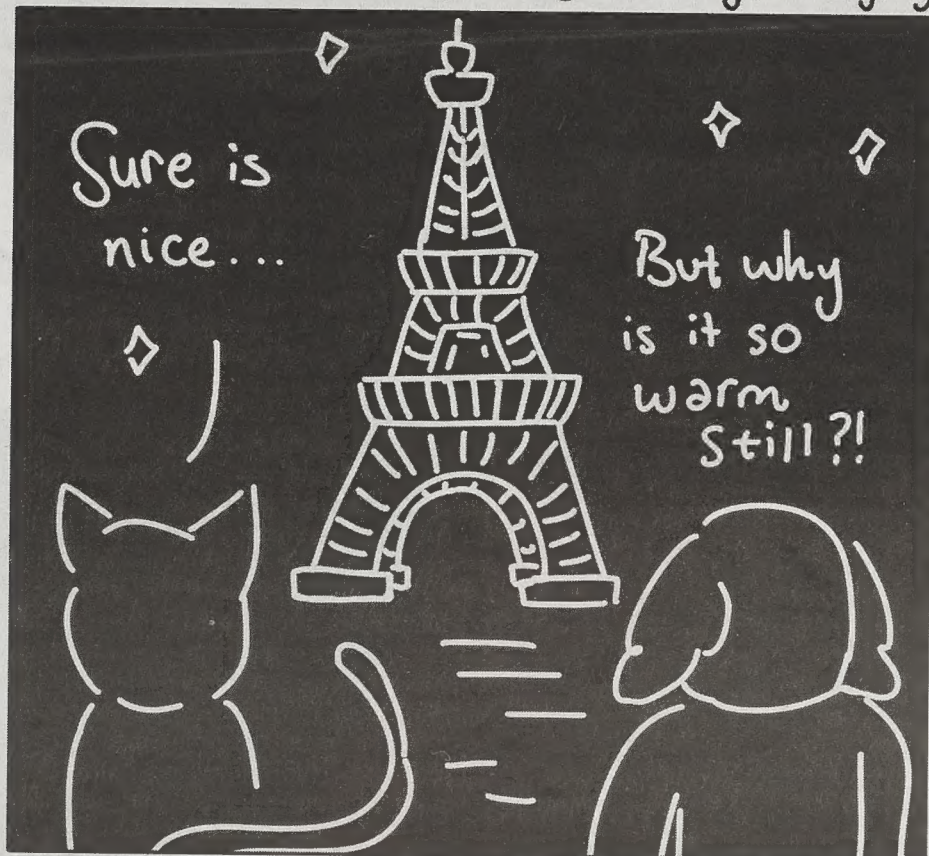


KAITLYND COLLINS



BOONE MCCOY-CRISP

College Cats Abroad by Emily Cox go/comicsbyemily



EMILY COX

SUPER CUTS



WIN HOMER



NOLAN ELLSWORTH

Locals are “Caught in the Act”: Vermonters and Middlebury students speak at Ted X Event on Sunday, November 10th. Here is a look at the speakers who are connected to Middlebury and Vermont

TED

Middlebury

“This Precious Life”

Local Vermonter

Elizabeth Ready gave a talk entitled “This Precious Life,” describing how she used Tibetan Buddhist ideas of enlightenment to improve her work addressing poverty and homelessness.

Ready is the Director of the John Graham Housing and Services that provides five buildings of service supported housing to homeless families in Addison County. She is an advocate for people who face poverty and discrimination. In her talk, Ready described her own experiences as a homeless woman forty years ago. After being turned away in the grocery store at Christmas time with a young baby for trying to buy food with pennies, Ready vowed that she would never allow herself to be treated that way again and that she would work to ensure that no one else would undergo the humiliation of feeling poor.

“Activism often begins with a personal matter. It could be some kind of suffering,” said Ready. Ready challenged her audience to interrogate how effective their own activism work is. “What can you do with this one precious life? How do we form those intentions and how does the art of our actions rise to meet them?” she asked.

She transformed her own activism—she formerly represented Addison County in the Vermont State legislature—from a personal striving to a selfless devotion through her meditation and study of Buddhist stories. Ready’s sentiments, especially her personal narrative, touched many members of her audience. “Coming from a low-income family myself, I have always been ashamed or felt less than my peers because my parents didn’t work. I am very familiar with the embarrassment that comes with paying for necessities in change found on the ground or tucked into couch cushions,” said Melissa Surrrette ’16, who attended Ready’s Ted talk. “I think a common theme among the TEDx talks [...] is this sense of accountability we should have for one another, whether it be social ideas concerning body image, believing rape victims and working with them after their trauma or coming to understand underrepresented groups, becoming their allies and making this world a more inclusive place.”

Graphics by Emma Hatheway and Cordelia Prouvost
Research and Reporting by Emilie Munson and Jack George

Photos courtesy of Michael O’Hara



"A Punishing Principle"

Speaking on stage in front of hundreds of faces, few of which you know, is never easy. This is a reality that all the participants in this year's "caught in the act" series faced, but many were experienced artists of the stage, not **Casey Wanna '17.5**. She won the student competition to speak at this year's event, a current Junior Feb, Wanna swayed across stage with arrhythmic fervor, translating the tension and the pain in her story. Her voice, honest and clear, reverberated through the MCA concert hall. Her talk was on the issue of body image and was titled "A Punishing Principle." Starting by sharing her memory of being woken up by her mother after passing out due to her body not having enough energy to keep her upright. She suffered from anorexia nervosa. Guys gave her attention, and her friends would enviously ask "what's your secret?" She received praise, the disease making her feel that the "the lying, pain, isolation, soreness, was worth it." It wasn't until she saw a dance performance in the very hall where she was speaking that she made the decision. She called her mother, "this time I was shaking her from the floor, 'Mom, I want to go into rehabilitation.'" It was not an easy process, but Wanna now feels happier and confident, a beacon of empowerment. She sees her struggle as being part of a wider phenomena. "My process reveals an injustice," she declared, "we need to change our culture." Her own story was one of someone who met "all of society's standards. You told her she was beautiful," but who had suffered so much as a result. Identifying harm in media as well as in the ways that people celebrate certain bodies, Wanna was adamant about what she saw as the right way forwards. In the face of negative body talk, she implored her listeners to answer "so what?" and asked them to join her so that "together we tell our girls they are more than their bodies." She ended on the note she started with, extending her wake-up call to all those present. She left the stage to a deafening standing ovation. Her mother spoke to point out just how difficult it was to stop making comments about appearance. Another spectator thanked Wanna for her bravery and reminded the audience how "eating disorders look differently in every body."



"Voice and Vulnerability: Healing the Scars of my Political Body"

"I speak with my body. It is mine to use, to give, to abandon and to care for."

These words echoed in the CFA concert hall as **The Lady B**, who describes herself as "Seattle's premiere TransFabulous, Femtastic, Draglesquing, Sass-mouthing Negro," danced below.

The first speaker in this year's Ted X, The Lady B opened the event with an introspective look into the intersection of the body, voice and politics. She introduced her talk with a dance piece, entitled "This is mine," which she wrote and performed for the first time as a sophomore at the College. The dance, accompanied by recorded spoken word by The Lady B, underlined taking ownership of the body as a way to combat prejudice and isolation. In her subsequent talk, The Lady B discussed her trials as a black, gay and queer person growing up in Cleveland, Ohio and later as student at the College. A member of the class of 2013, The Lady B frequently struggled with feeling like she needed to silence herself so as not to be perceived as "an angry black person." Gradually, she learned an important lesson:

"I learned that my voice was an extension of my physical body. So in silencing my voice, I was also silencing my body and all the history and wisdom that comes along with it."

As a dance and political science major, The Lady B's ideas about voice, body and politics culminated in her Senior Thesis. For her thesis, she developed The Lady B catchphrase, "May we have the courage to be kind and honest to ourselves and others," which is now the mantra of her life and work.

Today, the Lady B is a performance artist, community organizer, activist and Twerkshop facilitator.

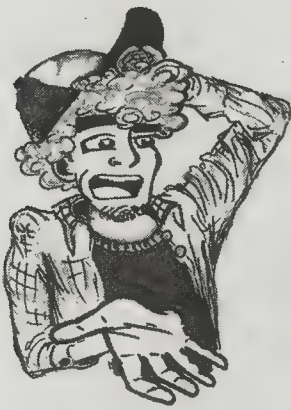


"From Death to Dignity"

Brendan O'Neill was teaching English to a migrant worker in their trailer on a Vermont dairy farm when the phone rang. His student got up and answered only to find out that a member of his community, an 18-year-old man, had died in a ghastly accident: working with a machine that did not meet safety standards, his thick winter clothing had gotten caught and strangled him to death. This tragic event kick-started an activist movement to secure the rights of migrant workers on Vermont dairy farms. O'Neill remarked how, "despite growing interest in food and where it comes from, there is little interest in farmworkers rights." Since that fateful day, Migrant Justice, for which O'Neill is a full-time paid member has won 5 significant human rights battles. Racial profiling, lack of access to fair housing, driver's licenses and police acting as immigration officials are just some of the issues the group keeps fighting against. O'Neill was joined on stage by **Enrique Balcazar**, one of those workers. Enrique spoke in Spanish while O'Neill gave sentence-by-sentence translations. He said how "immigrants so often in this country are dehumanized." A study they conducted, farmworker to farmworker, of around 200 migrants suggested that 40% don't have a day off and 40% make below the minimum wage, a further 20% had their wages withheld. Despite having such obviously difficult conditions, the feeling was that progress was being made. O'Neill emphasized the importance of his 5-step plan, a model for organizing inspired from Latin America, which starts from individual experience and moves towards group empowerment, embracing theory and organizing on the way.

Together and with the help of the organizations they spearhead, O'Neill and Balcazar, as well as many other members of the migrant community here in Vermont seem to be slowly making their way from death towards dignity.





How is it Still a (Midd) Thing?

By Charlie Ascher
Senior Columnist

Someone needs to invite the producers of "Hoarders" to this campus. The hoarders? Us. What we hoard? Dining hall dishes. Good luck in pinpointing which student has the most extensive collection, some of which are impressive, to say the least. Many students own a complete set of dishes from every dining hall, including the more obscure items like serving platters and soup ladles. Some true Middlebury hoarders also have sets of both Proctor's old (think abnormally round bowls and exceptionally oval plates with China-like designs) and new dishes.

Yes, it is time to address this campus's deep and never-ending love for industrial grade melamine dishware. How are we still not bringing dishes back? How are personal dining hall dish collections still a thing?

(Side note: I feel like I've basically become the official campus complainer and nitpicker. I swear I actually love it here. So much that I'm honestly running out of things to complain about.)

But anyway, back to complaining. While the purchase of new Proctor dishes did much to alleviate the great Proctor bowl shortage of 2015 (and 2014, and 2013 ...), the days of dish shortages are not over.

Seriously, how many times have you gone to get your third bowl of ice cream salad (apparently salads are healthy, so I've started to add the word 'salad' to everything I eat) of the day only to find out that Proc is out of bowls? Talk about a buzz-kill. One moment you're psyching yourself up for your upcoming recreation of Holes featuring an ice cream scoop and the half-empty bin of coffee heath bar crunch, and the next moment you're disillusioned with the world and seriously considering transferring to some horrible place like Williams because you hear they have bowls.

But here's the thing: the dish shortage is our fault. Using extensive research and my trusty abacus, I have calculated that the average Middlebury student has 1 mug, 1 glass, 2 bowls, 1 plate, 1 spoon, 3 forks and 1 knife in their room at a time.

I'm as big a fan of the Ross "Pizza-To-Go" strategy as anyone and fully get why you'd take dishes from the dining hall. Like any aspiring competitive eater, I realize that the secret to success is perseverance; the need to eat a disgusting amount of food can strike at any time, especially at the inconvenient 8:01 P.M. Taking a dish or two back to your room from dinner and then bringing them back in the next day is totally fine.

The problem arises when those plates start adding up in your room to the point where you have enough mediocre college-grade dishware to create a crusty shrine to your mediocre college GPA. Why do you have a set of dishes for a family of four in your single when the dining halls for the masses have nowhere near enough? I know you've started to form a real attachment to that one yellow bowl in particular, but even in high school I learned that "Nothing gold can stay." We're all clearly amazing at taking dishes to our room, but why can't we be good at returning them? How hard can it be?

Seriously, how is dish hoarding still a thing? Let's start taking things back so that we're never forced to use a spoon as a fork again.

Carbon Neutral by 2016, But We Still Don't Know How To Recycle

By Josie Trichka
Staff Columnist

My roommate and I generate about two full bins of recycling and garbage per week – and that's just in our personal living space. Imagine all the food waste, paper, bottles and packaging we as a student body of around 2,500 produce each week. Just six people are responsible for the collection, sorting, and disposal of all our refuse: the employees of the Middlebury College Recycling Center.

On Friday afternoon, I bore witness to the mountain of bagged recycling and garbage that was the result of just one day's pickup. Before the bags arrive at the Recycling Center, they are picked up from over fifty sites by Wes Doner, main driver of the recycling truck, and Paul Gurney, main driver of the CDL (commercial driver's license) trucks.

Doner described his typical morning.

"I come in, check my truck over, make sure the lights and everything are working and then I go around picking up all the recycling and come back to unload," he said. "If I have any more time, then I'll get off the truck and help these guys sort through the garbage and recycling."

The CDL trucks run separate routes in order to fulfill their specific tasks. There is a trash route, a recycling route, a compost route and a daily bio-ash pick-up at the Service Building.

The College actually utilizes all of the compost it produces for landscaping around campus, including athletic fields and flowerbeds.

"Every three days, the compost is weighed at transfer stations and then taken to the stump dump up on South Street," Gurney said. "Once a year, it's screened out and made into our final product." Once the bags of recycling and garbage arrive at the recycling center, they must be sorted. This might seem like a relatively straightforward process, as students have theoretically pre-sorted their garbage and recycling into the appropriate bins.

"Dumping coffee or liquids into the recycling bins, not breaking boxes down to help with space and throwing light bulbs and batteries into the trash are common, but costly mistakes."



Behind the Vest reporter Josie Trichka peers into a bag from the "recycling" bin.

But Recycling Center employees Kimberly Bickham and Cleveland "Billy" Pottinger showed me this is rarely the case.

Pottinger called me over to where he was sorting and showed me the contents of one of the bags from a recycling bin. It was full of plates coated in some sort of nasty cheese sauce, plastic bags and tin foil mixed with a few actually recyclable cans and bottles.

"This one looks to me like it might be from the tailgate area," Bickham said. "And that's actually a lot nicer than some of the ones we've seen."

The general consensus among the employees was that students could make their jobs exponential-

ly easier by simply taking the time to sort their garbage from their recycling.

"Not dumping coffee or liquids into the recycling bins, breaking boxes down to help with space and not throwing light bulbs and batteries into the trash" were the most com-

mon offenses, according to Bickham. She also agreed that general sorting would be the biggest help.

"Everyone has a trash and a recycling bin in their room," she said. "If they could simply sort in their rooms and then take those bins out to the appropriate large bins, that would help tremendously." It might seem like common sense, but it's easier said than done.

During the homecoming football game, the Middlebury Athletic department hosted the Green Panther Challenge. Green Liaisons from varsity teams stood in front of recycling bins in the stadium and the tailgating area. They were supposed to monitor people sorting to improve the likelihood that trash would be put in the correct bin.

Bickham said, "The results were only a tiny bit better when sorting was monitored. Folks still aren't sorting it out exactly the right way. I'm in hopes that with hockey and basketball being inside, the monitoring will go much better."

After the garbage and recycling has been sorted, everything except returnable cans and bottles, enters the single-stream compactor. Once a month, paper is stacked and shipped to Rutland to be recycled.

Out of the four employees I spoke with, Pottinger has been with the Recycling Center the longest – although he said he wasn't sure how long it had been exactly.

"I never check the time," he said. "Time waits for no man, so I say let it run."

The recycling center recycles more than just cans, bottles and paper – it also collects and re-sells used appliances, furniture, school supplies and clothing. These items are stored in attached trailers, which students have access to during normal recycling center hours. Usually, the reuse trailers get at least one visitor per day.

"Near Halloween, we were really busy with people coming through," Pottinger said. "We'll actually be closing the clothing part by the end of this month and bringing what's left over to H.O.P.E. [a local poverty alleviation organization in Middlebury]."

On the whole, the College's recycling practices are highly efficient. The diversion rate, or the amount of recyclables that are kept out of the landfill, is 64.5%, a rate that Pottinger described as "excellent." But we could easily raise that rate if we can keep things like nacho cheese out of the blue bins.

Our recycling center is certainly doing its job – so maybe it's time for us to give them a little more help. So, next time you're in a hurry and tempted to chuck your half-chugged cup of coffee into the nearest receptacle, think about where that cup is going and whose hardworking hands it will have to pass through before it reaches its final resting place.



Wes Doner, primary driver of the College's recycling truck, also helps sort recycling.

“Reflection Friday”: A Discussion with President Laurie L. Patton

By Emma McDonald
Senior Writer

What matters to our President Laurie L. Patton, and why?

The Center for Social Entrepreneurship (CSE) hosted its third “Reflection Friday” on Nov. 6 in Wilson Hall featuring President Patton. Middlebury’s Reflection Fridays consist of an hour-long reflective talk by a student, faculty member, staff member or alumnus/alumna during which he or she responds to the prompt: “What matters to me and why?”

This new program provides an opportunity for students, faculty and staff to “come together, break bread, [and] slow down,” CSE Director and Professor Jon Isham said.

President Patton explained that the way she thought about this prompt was by asking herself, “What is my question? The one question I’ll never be able to answer and I’ll never get tired of asking.” Each person has this type of question, one that does not necessarily get at our passion or identity, but instead seeks to locate each person’s “place of fascination.”

President Patton believes that her question is, “What is the nature of the poet in society?”

“That’s all I care about. Actually,” she said. She explained how learning languages, specifically Sanskrit, became for her a way to access the poetic traditions of different cultures, and how her study of poetry and religion emphasized to her the importance of the poet in allowing people to have a voice. She is currently studying women who teach Sanskrit in India. These women now have access to a language that was pro-

hibited to them for three thousand years.

While the role of the poet in society is to help people have a voice, President Patton related that to her role as an administrator to help people “come to voice” in the “most poetic way possible.” She defined “coming to voice” as a transformative type of participation that allows a deep and new meaning come to surface.

Professor Isham went on to ask President Patton how she realized this was her question. In response, Patton asked another question, “Why do I care that people have voices?”

She spoke of growing up in Salem Village, a town still intimately connected to the history of the Salem Witch Trials. Living there made her

realize even small communities have the power to violently oppress. She was struck by how those persecuted, mostly women, were silenced. She connected this historical silencing to her personal upbringing, and how she felt in her family that she did not have a voice, and found herself wondering if she even deserved one.

At Harvard, where Patton spent her undergraduate years, she felt “deeply inadequate.” Though she appreciated the extraordinary religion department and feels indebted to the opportunities she was able to pursue through Harvard, what she remembers most was an “educational environment that just felt false.”

“It always felt like we were watching each other’s image of each other.” It was only through a Harvard graduate class on Anglo-Saxon poetry, taught by professor and playwright William Alfred, that Patton was able to explore her curiosity

freely without judgement.

She contrasted the environment at Harvard with her experience in graduate school at the University of Chicago.

“[There], people were always arguing, but they loved each other while they were arguing,” she said.

For Patton, this type of educational environment emphasized the importance of voice in education, and the role that feeling heard can have in facilitating personal transformation.

President Patton highlighted what she called a “Middlebury signature” – our ability to reflect on the meaning of education. She took the opportunity to offer her own reflection, remarking that people stay in education because there is some moment of joy they cannot forget. She believes that we need to foster and build on these moments and let go of attempts at “effortless perfection.”

Livi Raggio ’15.5 connected this approach to education with broader engagement in our community: “Although it should theoretically be so easy for us to get outdoors and go hiking, or take advantage

of being in Vermont in some other way, I’ve found it’s often difficult to do so without compromising academics or getting behind. I’d love to see the culture relax a bit at Middlebury so that students felt more able and inclined to leave campus and learn more about Addison County.”

President Patton asked the audience, “What would ‘slow education’ at Middlebury look like?” She gave some examples of her own, including a surprise cancellation of class, a “no multi-tasking” day. She asked, “What if one day a month, or a week, we did one thing? What would your one thing be?”

Elias Van Sickle ’18 reflected, “I left the talk feeling like the sum of her experiences as well as her broad awareness, compassion and understanding of the human condition make her capable of affecting great, positive change.”

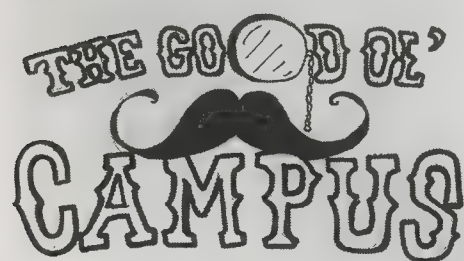
Check out next week’s “Reflection Friday” on November 20 at DKE House: Daniel Loehr ’13.5, Root-Tilden-Kern scholar at the NYU School of Law, will reflect on what matters to him and why.



RACHEL FRANK

President Patton talks about the importance of having one’s voice heard in the classroom.

Cold Observer Shuns Coke To Get Mechanized Milkmen



OCTOBER 28, 1954

By Grace Levin
Contributing Columnist

Advertisements with catchy slogans and illustrative cartoons often decorated the pages of past Campus issues. In the 1940’s and 50’s, Coca-Cola was a frequent advertiser.

In an Op-Ed from 1954, Middlebury student Jon Brand calls for a vending machine that sells Vermont milk to replace a controversial soda machine on campus. It seems the local food dialogue has been an ongoing discussion throughout the College’s history ...

“Cold Observer Shuns Coke to Get Mechanized Milkmen”

by Jon Brand

The coke controversy leaves this ob-

server cold, and it leads him to suggest an alternative: milk.

Vermont’s largest industry is having a rough time of it; there is a state-wide-drink-milk-all-the-time slogan campaign going on; and milk is actually more nutritious than coke. Calories are another question, although few people other than advertisers think of asking it. And your observer tried a beer-milk shake this summer which wasn’t half bad, at least not the Budweiser half.

There are companies which manufacture and rent milk vending machines. A half-pint of milk wouldn’t cost any more than the same amount of coke. Middlebury would gain better teeth, stronger athletes and smoother relations with the surrounding dairy region

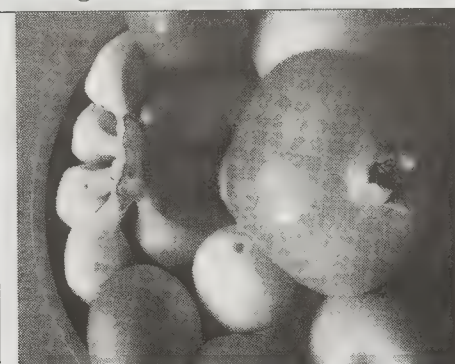
The dining rooms might lose

a few cereal bowls, but students would get more sleep and they would buy their own corn flakes. Doughnuts could be left by the machines and sold dime-in-the-cup newsstand style ... Let’s mechanize the milkmen and forget about Coca Cola.



GRACE LEVIN

One of the 1940’s Coca-Cola advertisements from the Campus.



Wellness Tip of the Week

By Emma Erwin
Contributing Columnist

Trouble sleeping?

Put your phone away, shut the screen off, and pick up a book before you head to bed! Studies show that the light used in iPads, iPhones, eReaders, laptops and desktop computers can negatively affect sleep, circadian timing and next-morning alertness. Instead of checking Facebook or watching Netflix before you fall asleep tonight – try reading a book, or listening to an audiobook instead!

Mental Health News:

- Casey Wanna was the student speaker at the TedX event on Sunday, Nov. 8 and her story centered on her personal experience overcoming an eating disorder, Anorexia Nervosa.

- The Resilience Project will start launching its campaign for the year later this week; stories can be submitted at go/resilience to be published online and to be read at this year’s J-Term event on Jan. 21.

TED Speaker Hosts Gender Justice and Race Workshop

By Adrian Leong
Staff Writer

"Wait a minute ..." Joshua Allen wrote on their Facebook profile at 1:33 p.m. last Sunday, "I just closed the TEDxMiddlebury conference and after I was done talking people stood on their feet and started clapping. What the actual f***?!"

Joshua Allen, a self-identified "organizer, abolitionist and freedom fighter," visited the College last weekend to challenge the ideas the college community has about Gender Justice and the Black Lives Matter movement. On Sunday, Nov. 7, Allen gave a speech titled "A World Without Cages" at the student-organized TEDx event in the Mahaney Center for the Arts (MCA).

The next day, Allen continued the discussion about the intersection of gender justice and race in their workshop called "Organizing at the Intersection of Black Lives Matter & Gender Justice" in Warner Hall. Over fifty students and a handful of staffs, faculty and community members participated in the workshop.

In an interview, Allen explained why they were surprised by the enthusiasm they received at TEDx.

"I was shocked and of course, honored," Allen said, "because for centuries in the U.S., the work that people like me do, that black people, that radicals do, who engage with work that is anti-state, has constantly been delegitimized as labor that can be respected." To have been invited to an institution that has been predominantly white since day one, and then to be given a standing ovation at TEDx, was "something that goes against the tradition in American history," Allen added.

But if the students' impassioned reaction for Allen's TEDx speech and their workshop offering on Monday afternoon are anything to go by, then there is a critical mass in the student body which is eager to challenge the American tradition.

And they can do so in ways both large and small, as Allen encouraged them to do in the check-in question he asked at the start of their Monday workshop. They invited each person to say their name, pre-

ferred gender pronouns, and "what they are feeling like today outside of the gender binary." Many of the students, professors, staff and community members in the room offered deeply resonating or flat-out hilarious answers: someone was a kazoo, others a sneeze that never came, or sensual poetry. It was like a ride through the field of infinite possibilities, a testament to the unfathomable range of human experiences that nullifies the two options permitted by the gender binary.

Allen then had the workshop attendees respond to two statements: 1) LGBTQ folks who are black are more likely than their white counterparts to experience homophobia in their family, and 2) The category of "people of color" is a useful construct for understanding the various forms of structural inequality that currently exist between white people and everyone else, respectively.

While the response to the first claim was quite mixed, most attendees assented to the second statement. Allen, in explaining why they disagreed with the first, traced history back to the sodomy laws which white European settlers imposed upon colonized populations throughout their worldwide empires that introduced rigid gender norms which were not there before. As such, they argued that homophobia is much more at home in the Western tradition than the common stereotypes of black families would have people believe.

As for their second statement, almost every student who spoke admitted that they found themselves in a dilemma when using the term "people of color." They thought the term useful when they wanted to identify the United States as a white supremacist nation-state, but they are at the same time cognizant of the danger of lumping together the varied experiences of different immigrant communities, especially blacks and non-blacks. Above all, as Allen reminded me in the interview, there is a crucial distinction between indigenous people, who are the original inhabitants of this land, and blacks and people of color, who are immigrants. By denying that there is a difference in kind amongst the



RACHEL FRANK

Joshua Allen hosted a workshop Monday about gender justice and Black Lives Matter.

injustices that these groups have been subjected to historically, users of a term like "people of color" risk submerging important historical truths about this country.

In a final exercise, the attendees were divided up into two large groups, and each first discussed within itself their responses to their prompt before they summarised their conversation for the larger group. The first prompt dealt with the reality that "gender non-conforming and Non Binary folks are more likely to be harassed by the police, physically assaulted and earn less than \$10,000 a year than their binary trans counterpart," and the second with the statistics that only 47 percent of survivors of physical violence to LGBTQ people of color report their attacks to the police.

The first prompt opened the discussion up to broader themes such as the way the gender binary and the nuclear family serve as the basic building blocks of a capitalist society.

Reflecting on the second prompt, attendees mentioned the victim-blaming culture of police procedures, which simply

puts the survivor through another facet of their traumatic experience of living in the U.S.; the internalized homophobia among LGBTQ people of color, which prevents survivors from admitting to themselves that they have a serious enough case to report; and the likely failure of community policing programs due to racist ideas that underpin who constitutes a "suspicious" person and who does not.

In the end, Allen challenged everyone to think of multiple ways to work in solidarity with bodies that we identify as the Other, and with that, they rushed off to the airport to catch a flight that would bring them to South Africa to meet with other organizers there.

For the Middlebury community, Joshua Allen is an example of someone who is working tirelessly to demonstrate that the past has not really passed, the present is pregnant with infinite possibilities and the future does not simply lie ahead of us: it is slowly gathering itself together, a present-future that we can become a part of, too.

STUDENTS PRODUCE FILM IN UNDER 40 HOURS IN BURLINGTON FILM SLAM

By Hye-Jin Kim
Features Editor

The night before Halloween, Hannah Marks '15.5, Ali Salem '16, Danilo Herrera '18, Sofy Maia '16, Eric Benoit '16 and Sasha Schell '15.5 pulled up to the swanky Courtyard by Marriott overlooking Lake Champlain. Active in the film department, they had all heard of each other, but were vague acquaintances at best.

Not for long. Their next 40 hours would be spent together, mostly awake.

Chosen by Ethan Murphy, a staff member in the College's Department of Film & Media Culture, these students represented Middlebury in the "Sleepless in Burlington" film slam hosted by the Vermont International Film Foundation last month. Competing with teams from Burlington College, Champlain College and UVM, teams of four to six students had 40 hours to write, shoot and produce a short film that met bizarre criteria such as referring to the year 1985, using an apple prop and including the line, "Put down that hat." The judging panel was led by Burlington-resident Colin Trevorrow, director of the blockbuster hit *Jurassic World* and the forthcoming film *Star Wars Episode IX* (planned for release in 2019).

Although Burlington College won the "Best Film" award, the College's team film, *Next Caller*, won three awards: "Best Actor," "Best Actress" and a new impromptu "Storytelling" award that Trevorrow presented. The "Storytelling" award includes a campus visit and discussion with the famous director.

"After working so hard for 40 hours, winning 'Best Film' would have been gratifying," said Marks, who directed the film, "but I think we'll get more out of meeting someone successful in the field and learning from them."

The biggest mental challenge for this team of high-achieving film majors was

overriding their perfectionist nature in order to meet the 40-hour time constraint. Salem, who operated the camera as the director of photography, said he was used to getting the very best shot possible, "no matter how long it takes." However, he and the rest of the Middlebury team were forced to change their approach that weekend.

"We can be perfectionists," Marks said. "When we want to do a take again, but we know that we have another few scenes we have to film, we had to sacrifice."

However, the team did not let the time constraint limit their imagination when it came to brainstorming *Next Caller's* plotline. It featured an anonymous caller and a radio station interview with a controversial thriller author. The story was crafted and written so well it that inspired Trevorrow to award the team with a new "Storytelling" accolade.

"When we were developing *Next Caller's* story with Sofy [Maia, the team's screenplay writer] on Friday night, we were all immediately hooked on the idea," Marks said. "Our imaginations ran away with it. Our mantra was: go big or go home."

The biggest logistical barrier that the College's team faced was being relatively far away from campus. Commuting back to Middlebury to use equipment and film scenes would have wasted two hours of precious time, so producer Danilo Herrera spent much of Friday night and Saturday morning trying to find a private radio station in Burlington for him to use. After a night of uncertainty, he eventually secured the Burlington College radio station. The team and their hired actors filmed for over 16 hours on Saturday starting at 8 a.m. and finishing at 12:30 a.m. on Sunday morning. They ended up with over 300 GB of raw footage in high quality 4K format.

Schell, who was in charge of editing, did not sleep on Sunday night. He worked from 1 a.m. right up to the 10:30 a.m. deadline. Salem and Marks stayed up with him,

meticulously reviewing each scene.

In the hotel room at 2 a.m. on Sunday, 8 hours before the deadline, Salem was unsure whether they would even finish a cut.

"It was a challenge to edit all the material," said Salem. "Especially challenging for our MacBook Pros [due to the large file size]."

At 10:25 a.m. on Sunday morning, the team handed in their multiple award-winning submission. Watching their final cut for the first time in its entirety at the screening that afternoon, Schell was impressed by the sound work done by teammate Benoit.

"I think we had the cleanest sound out of all the movies, which is pretty swag because it adds the little extra that makes a movie flow," Schell said.

Although the initial demanding 40 hours are over, the team continues to work on editing *Next Caller*, with a possible on-campus screening in the works.

"In hindsight, a little simplifying might have been wise [given the competition's time constraint]," said Salem. "On the flip side, we now have a project that should enjoy a solid life beyond this 40-hour film fest."

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ARTS & SCIENCES

The Middlebury Campus

Flare Path Sheds Light on Realities of War

By Elizabeth Zhou
Arts & Sciences Editor

Flashing lights, black-and-white video projections of launching aircraft and sounds of revving engines flooded Wright Memorial Theatre this weekend as part of the visceral backdrop for the fall faculty show, *Flare Path* (Nov. 5-7). Set in a hotel near an RAF Bomber Command airbase during World War II, the play was written by popular English dramatist Terence Rattigan in 1941. Its name refers to the lamps stationed alongside runways that allow aircraft to take off and land in the darkest of hours. The story behind *Flare Path*, however, is far more than the theatrical perils of air combat, or even the gravity of life in wartime Britain, though these are salient themes – rather, it is a tale of duty, heartache and morals that provides a most telling glimpse into human nature and all of its inner turmoil.

We are all familiar with the quintessential wartime story of men fighting valiantly on foreign fronts whilst their wives and sweethearts eagerly await their return. It is this emotional matter that forms the foundation of *Flare Path* – though Rattigan, who drew inspiration for the play from his own experiences as a tail gunner during World War II (and miraculously saved the incomplete manuscript amidst a crisis in air combat), added a twist to the tale by dropping a love triangle into the mix.

Actress Patricia Graham, portrayed by Sofia Donovan '18 in her first Middlebury College theatre performance, is spending the weekend with her husband Teddy, played by Jabari Matthew '17, at the Falcon Hotel on the Lincolnshire coast, when she is surprised by a visit from her past lover, Hollywood film star Peter Kyle, played by Sebastian LaPointe '18. To throw a wrench in things, Teddy is suddenly assigned to a night raid over Germany that very evening, leaving Patricia to grapple with lingering feelings for her old flame and a sense of obligation toward a husband whom she barely knows. The couple met and married during one of Teddy's week-long leaves; Patricia and Peter were madly in love before then and would have married had Peter not been unavailable. With Peter calling for her affection in the wake of his waning career and Teddy counting on her for emotional support, Patricia finds herself trapped in a moral dilemma. Who needs her most?

The presence of two other couples in the hotel contribute further to an already emotionally trying tale. Maudie Miller, portrayed by Quincy Simmons '18, has managed to take a short time off work to see her husband, tail gunner Sergeant Dave "Dusty" Miller, played by Alex Herdman '17. Meanwhile, Doris, played by Ashley Fink '18, is visiting her partner Count Skriczevinsky, portrayed by August Rosenthal '17, a Polish pilot who decided to serve with the RAF after his wife and son were killed by the Nazis. Written at the end of 1941, a point in history when England stood as the lone player against the German National Socialist war machine, *Flare Path* has a rich premise fraught with tension and uncertainty, prompting an emotional whirlwind for all parties involved.

Director Richard Romagnoli, a professor of theatre, was careful to address the inner conflicts that the women in the play had to contend with.

"These fliers leave their wives like husbands going off for a day at work. Many never came back," he said. "The women were powerless to impose their will. Those who were veterans stoically accept it. Patricia, who had just moved to the base to live with her husband, says to him as he's about to walk out the door on a mission, 'Teddy, I don't know what to say,' to which he replies, 'Come back.' It must have been a surreal experience – will he return in six hours or not? I've read that around 55,000 RAF bomber crews were killed over Europe between 1939 and 1945."

Anxiety levels amongst the characters reach their peak when one of the planes is destroyed by the German air force, and Count Skriczevinsky does not return from the mission alongside Teddy and Dusty. The meticulously executed crash scene – the resounding boom, the flickering fluorescent lights and the looks of harrowing shock and dread on the characters' faces – stood out as one of the most gripping moments of the night.

In creating a backdrop for the play, Romagnoli explained that he tried to "give the war a presence that would, at times, dominate the space through the use of video, sound and lights."

"I thought that was important to convey the extent to which the war subsumed the hotel and its residents," he said.

As characters filter in and out of the front lobby of the hotel throughout the nerve-racking night, certain sections of the dia-



STAN BAROUH

Throughout all his dispatches, Patricia is a source of support for husband Teddy.

logue shed light on the terrifying magnitude of their situation.

"I suppose if I'd been in England longer than a mere three months, I would be as blasé about raids," Peter comments at one point, as the sounds of bombers fill the air. "Listen. Those ours?"

"Theirs," Maudie says after a long pause. She has lived through so many bombings that she can tell the difference between German and British air raids.

Resilience amidst massive hardships stands out as a prominent theme in *Flare Path*.

"If there was anything that I would hope the audience members took away from the performance, it would be that they became more aware of the ability humans have to cope with day-to-day life stressors," Matthew, who played Teddy, stated. "What the audience members choose to do with that awareness is really up to them."

Despite the seriousness of the plot premise, the cast strived to strike a balance between heaviness and humor. And so, even as the entire storyline seemed to verge on tragedy, audience members found them-

selves chuckling periodically throughout the night.

"A dramatic scene or moment is followed by a comic scene," Romagnoli explained. "It was important for these antithetical moments to hit their targets. Comedy undermines the gravity, while the drama reminds us of the stakes. Ultimately, their world is an absurdity, one created to make their conditions tolerable."

The opening scene is crucial in setting this particular tone for the play, as Peter humorously attempts to negotiate a room for the night with the snarky hotel manager, Mrs. Oakley, as played by Lana Meyer '17. In other moments, the young waiter, Percy, portrayed by Maxwell Lieblich '18, brings a much-needed burst of energy to the group through his feverish serving of drinks and light-hearted comments. Later in the evening, Doris's alcohol consumption drives her to a state of drunken silliness (as depicted charmingly by Ashley Fink '17), which provides a welcome reprieve from the tension emanating from the rest of the room.

Besides a few moments of particular emotional intensity, *Flare Path* is a play full of understatement. As Professor of English and the Liberal Arts John Bertolini stated in the Program Note, this is perhaps best exemplified by Maudie's matter-of-fact comment, "There's a war on, and things have got to be a bit different, and we've just got to get used to it – that's all."

To characterize a life turned upside-down by nightly air raids as "a bit different" is a testament to the mindset of the British public – and it is this tendency to understate that stood at the heart of last weekend's performance.

"There existed several places in this play in which not just myself but perhaps the entire rest of the cast had to channel large and at times complicated human emotions, while not acting these emotions in a large way," Matthew explained. "It wasn't really a matter of suppression as it was a matter of understatement."

Unfortunately, some of the nuanced expression behind these performances may have been lost on the audience due to the characters' thickly-accented speech, rapid-fire delivery of dialogue and usage of time-era-specific jargon. The faculty production of *Flare Path* deeply engaged the audience in many other regards, however – from its breathtaking aesthetics and sound design to its striking depiction of wartime terrors to the flurries of light and calm in between. Though it is not always an easy play to watch, in humanizing a small piece of history, it is so worth the telling.



STAN BAROUH

Flying-Officer Count Skriczevinsky, portrayed by August Rosenthal '17, communicates his plan through heavily accented English.

**DON'T
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Middlebury College Orchestra

The Middlebury College Orchestra presents its fall concert featuring Beethoven's Overture to Goethe's *Tragdey Egmont*, Saint-Saens' *Morceau de Concert*, Mendelssohn's *Final's Cave* and Rossini's *William Tell Overture*. Conducted by Larry Hamberlin. Free.
11/14, 7 P.M., MAHANEY CENTER FOR THE ARTS

New Music from the College Choir

The College Choir performs a brief concert of new compositions written for the choir. Music by students, alumni and faculty includes recent works by Peter Hamlin '73, Annie Beliveau '18 and Tevan Goldberg '18. Free.
11/15, 3 P.M. MCA CONCERT HALL

Reading of Ten Thousand Saints

Eleanor Henderson reads from her first novel, *Ten Thousand Saints*, and discusses its film adaptation, written and directed by Shari Springer Berman and Robert Pulcini. Sponsored by the Hirschfeld International Film Series. Free.

11/16, 4:30 P.M. AXINN CENTER, ABERNETHY ROOM

PERFORMING ARTS SPOTLIGHT

By Connor Forrest
Senior Columnist

They dress like debonair secret agents, win over more hearts than a basket of puppies and sing like angels. Founded in 1968 at King's College in Cambridge, England, The King's Singers are one of the world's most foremost vocal ensembles. While Pentatonix and *Pitch Perfect* have rekindled popular interest in the vocal arts, The King's Singers have been using their musical virtuosity and irresistible charm to garner international fame for decades, performing for hundreds of thousands of people each season all over the globe. Now, they are coming to Middlebury.

Instantly recognizable for their immaculate intonation, vocal blend, diction and incisive timing, The King's Singers are consummate entertainers. If you love our campus a cappella groups half as much as I do, this performance offers an exceptional treat and insight into the very highest level of talent. Tickets are selling out so quickly that the venue was changed from the MCA to Mead Chapel.

Since the group's founding, there have been 25 King's Singers — the original six and 19 replacements, each joining as somebody else leaves. Current members include: countertenors David Hurley and Timothy Wayne-Wright, tenor Julian Gregory, baritones Christopher Bruerton and Christopher Gabbittas and bass Jonathan Howard. The longest tenured is Hurley, with 26 years to his credit as a King's Singer. This is his final concert tour with the ensemble.

"I am now into my twenty-sixth year standing at the left hand (as you look at it) end of The King's Singers, and I don't know where the time has gone," he said. "I still love the variety that each day brings as we travel to wonderful places around the world, and I always get a buzz from singing to a live audience. I was the youngest child of three, with older sisters, so I rather enjoy the novelty of being the oldest in the group."



CHRIS O'DONOVAN

The King's Singers will perform at Mead Chapel on Tuesday, Nov. 17 at 7:30 p.m.

On the other end of the spectrum, Julian Gregory is the group's youngest member, having joined just last year.

"I will always remember the summer of 2014: the time when I was having an incredible time living in Aix-en-Provence, singing in two inspirational operas at Le Festival d'Aix, exploring the stunning Mediterranean coastline nearby and, one wholly unsuspecting morning, being called out of the blue by The King's Singers to ask whether I'd like to be flown out to Riga in Latvia the following week to audition for the tenor spot of their group," Gregory said.

Auditions are only offered when a current member is ready to step down. This alone makes them exceedingly rare. Furthermore, auditions are never open to the public. You do not go to the King's Singers; The King's Singers come to you. When it is time to replace a member, they evaluate the best vocal talent in the world and invite a few for a chance at the spot. Members come from all walks of life, but the presiding thread is an unparalleled love for and appreciation for singing. For Timothy Wayne-Wright, that recognition came when he was just six years old, singing the daily services as a boy chorister at Chelmsford Cathedral.

With almost all the group's members initially finding their love via singing in church choirs, it is appropriate that The King's Singers perform in our beloved Mead Chapel. The chapel was built in 1916, and while service requirements disappeared decades ago, it is still the favorite place of many choral and a cappella groups on campus, from the College Student Choir to the Mamajamas to Dissipated Eight. According to Christopher Gabbittas, although The King's Singers have performed in the world's most renowned venues, he is happiest in chapels like ours.

To Christopher Bruerton, being a King's Singer is more than simply astounding audiences all over the world with vocal prowess and presence: It is an unpar-



CHRIS O'DONOVAN

The King's Singers are an internationally famous vocal ensemble founded in 1968.

leled opportunity to guide and impassion those who will keep the tradition alive.

"Since making my debut in The King's Singers I have loved every moment," he said. "I am so fortunate to have had the chance to sing in world-renowned concert halls from New York to Sydney with Beijing in between. However, I get the biggest buzz from being able to pass on my experience to the next generation through the workshops we do across the world. There is no greater joy than seeing others making their first steps in a cappella and ensemble singing."

The group's diverse repertoire includes more than 200 commissioned works, including landmark pieces from leading contemporary composers such as Luciano Berio, György Ligeti, Sir James MacMillan, Krzysztof Penderecki, Toru Takemitsu, Sir John Tavener, Gabriela Lena Frank and Eric Whitacre. The King's Singers have also commissioned arrangements of everything from jazz standards to pop chart hits, explored medieval motets and Renaissance madrigals and encouraged young composers to write new scores. They are two-time Grammy award-winning artists, and were recently voted into the Gramophone Hall of Fame. For Jonathan Howard, a King's Singer since 2010, the music never gets old.

"The breadth of our repertoire also staggers me," he said. "I smile seeing program sheets that list all of Gesualdo's *Tenebrae Responsories* for Maundy Thursday and our staged Great American Songbook show in consecutive concerts. But most of all, it brings me such joy to think that, as the group grows and we approach our 50th anniversary, we still dare to defy musical classification. We're not just classical sing-

ers, folk singers, jazz singers or pop singers. We're simply six friends who love to sing, and we're thrilled there still seems to be a place in the market for groups like ours that aren't bound to a stereotype."

The King's typically either sing a set of Renaissance music or more contemporary pieces. However, The King's Singers have agreed to do a very unique program for Middlebury. The first half of the show, drawn from the group's recording *Pater Noster: A Choral Reflection on the Lord's Prayer*, will include sacred music from the English Renaissance. After intermission, The King's Singers will take a musical tour around the globe with songs from their "Postcards Project," a collection of folk and popular songs amassed on their travels. This half will include works from Canada, Mexico, Ecuador, Brazil, South Africa, South Korea, Italy, France and the United States.

Special thanks to our amazing Performing Arts Series Director Allison Coyne Carroll for arranging this incredibly unique program in reflection of the College's international strengths and outreach.

To learn more about The King's Singers, come to the pre-concert lecture given by Jeffrey Buettner, Chair of the Department of Music and Director of Choral Activities, at 6:30 p.m. at Mead Chapel. Audience members are more than welcome to come to hear more about the ensemble, their musical tradition and the works to be performed.

The King's Singers concert will take place on Tuesday, Nov. 17 at 7:30 p.m. in Mead Memorial Chapel.

Tickets are \$6 for students. Visit go/boxoffice or stop by one of the offices in McCullough or the MCA.

BOOKING IT

By Abigail Walton
Contributing Columnist

Rainbow Rowell's new novel, *Carry On*, takes place at Watford, a magical school hidden in Scotland for wizards living in the United Kingdom. The protagonist is 18-year-old Simon Snow, an orphan who grew up among the "normals" before the mage scooped him up and took him to Watford, where he is now finishing his eighth year. According to a prophecy, he is the "Chosen One," destined to fight the "insidious Hundrum" and save the world of magic.

If this sounds at all familiar, it is because *Carry On* is a fully self-aware rip-off of *Harry Potter*. Now, Rowell's world does have a few of its own conventions — for instance, some magicians use rings or belt buckles instead of wands; there is no Sorting Hat, but rather a cru-

cible that pairs roommates; and spells are cast with an emphasis on familiar-sounding language and phrases. Ultimately, however, most aspects map quite closely to the Potter world that we all grew up with.

Fan fiction has lurked in the shadows for years, largely due to copyright concerns and the opinion of authors that it is wrong to "borrow" characters, even

CARRY ON

the familiar template, Rowell has managed to construct a tale that feels fresh and new. Enriched by its connection to a whole host of other material, this book is for the readers who feel both love and frustration toward *Harry Potter*, *Lord of the Rings* or *Star Wars*. Rowell alludes to the aspects that most fans love whilst directly contradicting other parts, simultaneously reflecting and challenging these beloved stories. *Carry On* makes

up one-third of the coexisting texts on Simon Snow, joining the ranks of Gemma T. Leslie's *Canon* and Rowell's earlier *Cath* fanfiction novel, *Fangirl*.

Fantasy might seem like a surprising genre for Rowell, who is known for her best-selling young-adult novel *Eleanor and Park*, a love story between teenagers in 1980s Nebraska (which, needless to say, is completely devoid of wizards and elves). As such, I was wary of how Rowell would approach fantasy. However, she draws clever connections, showing that an obsessive rivalry is not so different from an obsessive crush. Simon and Baz, his vampire love interest, circle each other closely throughout the first half of the book, each hyper-aware of the other's movements.

"I can feel Snow's eyes on the back

of my head," Baz narrates.

Then, in the next chapter, Simon thinks, "I already feel I need to know where he is at every movement."

This are-they-enemies-or-are-they-not storyline allows Rowell to play to her greatest strength, which is less the construction of magical worlds and more so the examination of vulnerable people falling in love. By using a template already set by J. K. Rowling, Rowell can skip the world-building and delve directly into emotional analysis. It is not easy to mimic, deconstruct and remix the elements of a magical world the way that Rowell does. Alive with freshness, *Carry On* makes a strong case for fan fiction's legitimacy as a literary medium.

"By using a template already set by J. K. Rowling, Rowell can skip the world-building and delve directly into emotional analysis."

Drama Labs Relevant and Versatile

By Luke Linden
Senior Writer

Amid the faculty theatre productions, senior theses and assorted shows that are put on each semester, the Drama Labs continue to stand as a unique tradition here at Middlebury. A series of independent student-produced plays, the Drama Labs, have offered a venue for experimentation, variety and student-initiated creativity for years.

Friday's production was no different. Produced by Daniel Buchman '18.5 and Sisi Liu '18 and featuring a wide array of

student writers, actors, directors and others working at all levels of production, the evening's hour-long show demonstrated a remarkable versatility and inventiveness.

Contrary to most other theatre productions, all scripts are student-written. In addition to offering a unique creative opportunity to aspiring student playwrights, this allows productions to tackle a number of issues that are contemporary and particularly relevant to the lives of young people. One such script this year explored the Black Lives Matter movement and issues of justice and race.

According to co-producer Sisi Liu,

"[Drama labs] are a great way to bring in what is a hot topic in today's society and what's interesting to today's students. That's a pretty big difference between drama labs and other plays."

Featured scripts ranged widely in tone, staging and scenarios. Among the highlights were an uneasy movie night born of blackmail, a droll conversation between Jesus and a Big Pharma executive and an act of vengeance spurred on by family drama and class warfare. Some productions made use of highly minimalist staging and a limited number of actors, choosing to focus in on a few core thematic conflicts. Others featured more complicated scenarios and sets, exploring a greater number of dramatic possibilities. Even within such a small subset of micro-productions, there was huge variety in terms of style, content and approach.

"I wouldn't say this show has any theme whatsoever," co-producer Buchman stated. "These scripts go all over the place. Some are amusing, while others are more serious."

Drama labs are notable for featuring students who may otherwise be unable to participate in on-campus theatre. While faculty productions can be intimidating both in the time commitment and level of experience required, drama labs offer a relaxed atmosphere in which participants can develop a number of skills related to theatre production.

"I really think drama labs are an encouragement for people to try out theatre," Liu said. "It's really easy to just get in and experience a bit of what different roles are like."

"[Drama labs] are a good way to get people involved that wouldn't otherwise," Buchman added. "So you're going to see a lot more faces than you would normally

in a theatre production ... I think we did a really good job of getting a diverse cast and crew, a big variety of people."

While the fruits of such a singular and creative endeavor were surely on display Friday night, much of the value of drama labs is in the behind-the-scenes process. With each production acting as a small, independent group, each member is almost equally responsible for the success of their production. Such small groups also enable a greater level of collaboration and a less restricted creative process than perhaps a larger production would.

"If you're trying out as an actor or stage manager or director, it's very easy to form a tight-knit circle with the other people you're working with," Liu said. "Because it's student-written, we can all sit down together to talk with the writer about what a line means or what the character is thinking at a certain time. The opinions of others can give added insight."

Through this process, students are empowered with a greater understanding of theatre production at nearly all levels. Those once intimidated by the theater world may leave drama labs with a more robust skill set that can enable them to more comfortably approach future creative endeavors.

At the end of the day, the greatest benefit of the drama labs may be in simply harnessing the immense talent and energy that is present at Middlebury and in telling student-driven stories. In this way, drama labs can be a reflection of our community at large, in its myriad forms.

"[Drama labs] are open to everyone," Buchman said. "I think we do a good job of getting a more representative ensemble in terms of who is a part of this community."



MICHAEL O'HARA

Written and directed by students, the Drama Labs tackled a wide array of issues.

California Guitar Trio Shows Off Range

By Devin McGrath-Conwell
Staff Writer

Last Friday night, Nov. 6, a nearly sold-out crowd gathered in the MCA Concert Hall to listen to the California Guitar Trio perform a varied set of pieces that spanned multiple genres. They covered music that ranged from Bach to "Bohemian Rhapsody," and the performers proved to be just as eclectic as their pieces.

The California Guitar Trio was formed in 1991 by Paul Richards of Salt Lake City, Utah, Bert Lams of Affligem, Belgium and Hideyo Moriya of Tokyo, Japan after the three met at a series of Guitar Craft workshops put on by Robert Fripp, who was the lead guitarist of King Crimson, a band known for its soaring and inventive progressive rock epics. They became close friends during the workshops and formed the trio four years later. Over the past three decades, the group has recorded 14 studio albums populated by both original compositions and covers, and had their music featured in Olympic broadcasts and wake-up calls for the astronauts on the NASA shuttle Endeavor.

This show was their first at the College, and judging by the audience reception they did not disappoint. The concert began as the trio walked out on stage to their respective positions and slid right into their first song, an original titled "Yamanashi Blues." Their musicianship was immediately apparent as they blended the distinct tones of their guitars into this mid-tempo number that introduced the crowd to their style. After finishing "Yamanashi Blues," Richards stepped forward to introduce them and say a little bit about the piece; the band continued to explain their songs throughout the night, showing that the group placed as much importance on the stories behind their songs as their composition.

After another original entitled "Melrose Avenue," which was written while they were driving down Santa Monica Boulevard in Los Angeles to their first show together, the group changed gears dramatically and delivered a cover of a 1959 song by Santo and Johnny titled "Sleepwalk." Richards played slide guitar delving into a country sound for the first, but not last, time of the night. After finishing, he then stepped forward to introduce the next song, another original composed by Moriya titled "Cherry



ALEJANDRA CHAVEZ

The California Guitar Trio, which was formed in 1991, performed a range of genres in the MCA Concert Hall last Friday night.

Blossoms" that would most effectively be classified as new age. The song is a strikingly beautiful composition, and it tenderly emoted the experience of watching cherry blossoms float down from their branches in the spring. Such clear evocation of images and emotions was apparent in the other original pieces the trio performed, which conveyed the feeling of anticipation Lams felt in walking into the first Guitar Craft workshop, and Moriya memories of walking through sunbeams in the forest near his home.

Amongst their more reflective pieces, the group took time to have fun on stage and play a number of more high energy pieces deftly interspersed throughout the program. A standout was their interpretation of Dave Brubeck's "Blue Rondo á la Turk," a jazz piece blended with Turkish music that Brubeck heard on a trip through the country. It is hard to imagine a Brubeck song without his characteristic piano

riffs, but the talent of the trio more than compensated. Another highlight came with "Ghost Riders on the Storm," a medley of "(Ghost) Riders in the Sky" by Stan Jones and the Doors' "Riders on the Storm." The two songs accented each other wonderfully, and showcased the group's compositional ability to bring out the best in the work of other artists. Moving to another period entirely, Bach was presented by the trio in an orthodox and impressive playing method they learned from Fripp called circulation. They played a Bach prelude (not specified as such by Richards while presenting it) with each guitarist playing a single note one after another, effectively cutting the song into thirds. Apart from the technical skill displayed by this difficult method, the piece was played beautifully. Lams is a Royal College of Music graduate in classical guitar, and as noted by the group he leads the group on their classical outings.

After delving once again into jazz on

"Spiritual" by Pat Metheny and Charlie Haden, and country on a rousing cover of a Buck Owens instrumental called "Buckaroo," they returned to Bach for the end of their set to perform a spectacular rendition of "Toccatina and Fugue in D Minor." After the first of three standing ovations, the group returned to the stage to fulfill their promise and played "Bohemian Rhapsody," encouraging the audience to join in and sing along. The night's music was concluded on a high note, choosing Dick Dale's "Misirlou" as their final song, showcasing Moriya's surf rock background and sending the show out with one final burst of energy.

As they left the stage after their rousing encore, the California Guitar Trio left no doubt as to their remarkable musicianship. Their survey of so many genres and styles made the show a hit among the crowd, and I did not see a single person, whether a student or community member, leave the show without a smile.

Football Beats Hamilton in 20th Straight Season

By Joe MacDonald

Sports Editor

The football team improved to 5-2 on Senior Day by squeaking by the Hamilton Continentals (1-6) with a final score of 21-16. Middlebury has now defeated Hamilton in 20 straight contests, dating back to 1996.

The Panthers started out hot, going 76 yards on three plays on the game's opening drive to break the ice with a 70-yard touchdown reception by WR Matt Minno '16. Middlebury then failed to connect on the PAT. On the Continentals' first drive, Middlebury CB Nate Leedy '17 picked off first-year Hamilton QB Cole Freeman at the Panther seven-yard line. From that point on it was all Continentals for the rest of the quarter, including an 8:54 drive that carried over into the second quarter and resulted in a Hamilton TD. Starting Hamilton RB LaShawn Ware tallied 74 yards on 12 first-quarter carries.

"[The Hamilton] offense has been pretty eclectic this year," Head Coach Bob Ritter said, "and I think it took our defense a little bit to figure out what they were doing and what was going on."

Hamilton struck again quickly in the second quarter when Freeman hit wideout Charles Ensley for a 78-yard score, giving the Continentals a 14-6 lead. The Panthers would be forced to punt on their first two second-quarter possessions, but were threatening in the waning moments of the half with the ball in the red zone. On the third-and-six from the Hamilton 10-yard line QB Matt Milano '16 threw an incompleteness and center James Wang '16 went down with an injury. As they have done often this season, the Panthers elected to go for it on fourth down in enemy territory. However, miscommunication be-

tween Milano and the replacement at center led to a mistimed snap. With only half of the offensive line aware of the snap, Milano was under immediate pressure and forced to heave a jump ball to the end zone that was picked off by Continental CB Jimmy Giatino, who gave Hamilton a chance to extend the lead before half.

"It was just miscommunication," Ritter said. "I'm not sure it was anyone's fault really, just one of those things where a new guy's coming in and we just weren't on the same page."

The Continentals failed to capitalize, however, and a weak 16-yard punt gave Middlebury the ball back on the Hamilton 26 with 55 seconds to play in the half. A couple of quick strikes to Trevor Miletich '16, working out of the slot for the first time this season, and RB Diego Meritus '19 preceded a 10-yard TD grab for Minno, his second of the game. QB Jared Lebowitz '18 converted the two-point attempt on a zone-read keeper, and the score was knotted 14-14 going into halftime.

"[Jared's ability to run] has been huge for us," Ritter said, "and it's actually helped us win two games."

Building off their work in the first half, the Panthers opened the second half with a quick scoring drive. After a three-and-out for the Continentals, Middlebury drove 53 yards on seven plays in 2:19, with Minno eventually snagging a 20-yard TD catch, his third of the game, to make it 21-14. The 171 receiving yards for Minno matched his career-high set three weeks ago against Williams, and Saturday was his fourth career game with three touchdowns. Minno now needs just 40 yards to jump to second on the all-time list for Middlebury receivers.

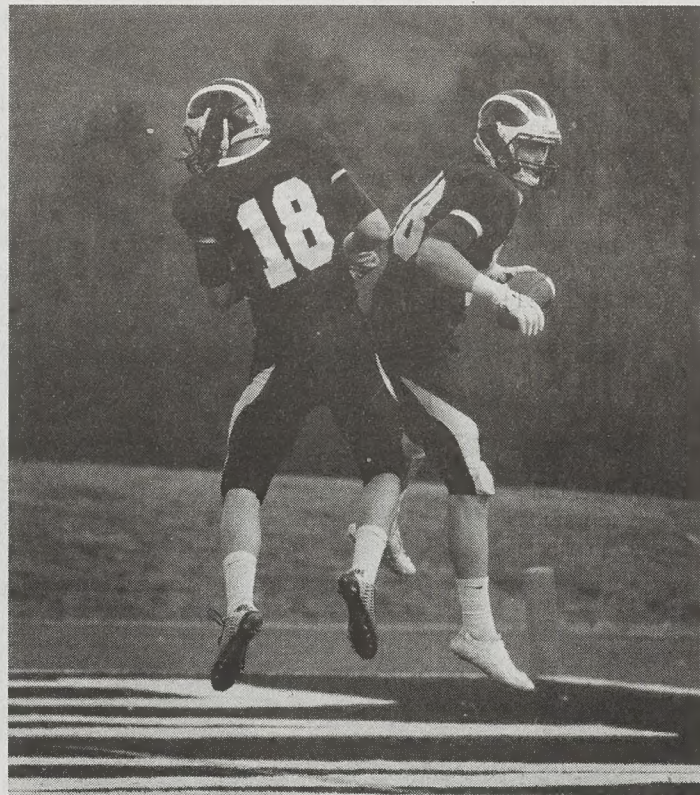
"I didn't even know that," Ritter said. "[He's] vital. What he brings — and I don't even think people know this from watching him — when he gets in the open field he is very fast, and he has had a couple of those touchdowns on short catches that look like eight to 10 yard plays that he's gone the distance. ... He's our big play guy."

Going for the dagger, the Panthers attempted an onside kick that was scooped up short of the 45-yard line by Hamilton, giving the Continentals a short field. Hamilton was unable to capitalize, though, as Leedy won a jump ball in the end zone for his second interception of the day, giving the ball back to Middlebury.

Coach Ritter began spinning the revolving door at QB in the third quarter. Both Milano and Lebowitz had to sit out periods of the quarter with minor injuries, giving Vermont native Jake Stalcup '17 a crack behind center. Both Lebowitz and Milano would return to action, but none of the trio was able to get the offense started again.

The Middlebury defense, however, continued to stand on its head, picking off Freeman for a third time when his receiver broke towards the sideline and Freeman's pass soared over the middle of the field right into the gut of safety Kevin Hopsicker '18, who returned the ball all the way to the Hamilton eight-yard line. The following Middlebury drive was unsuccessful, however, as Lebowitz was dropped for a 12-yard sack and then flung an interception on fourth-and-goal from the 20-yard line.

The two teams then traded a few punts, with Middlebury being forced to kick away from its own end zone with just over six minutes remaining. Hamilton had been bringing a bevy of rushers at punter Charlie Gordon '19 all day long but hadn't quite been able to get a hand on any of his kicks, until Sean Tolton rejected Gordon's punt in the middle



MICHAEL BORNSTEIN

Matt Minno '16 and Trevor Miletich '16 celebrate the Panther touchdown that tied the game at 14-14 late in the second quarter.

of the fourth quarter, sending it out of the end zone for a safety to make it a five-point game, 21-16.

The Continentals, once again, could not capitalize on the swing of momentum, and two drives later, with under two minutes to play, Freeman unleashed his fourth interception, this time into the hands of CB Matt Daniel '19.

"They take a lot of shots," Ritter said. "They're a big gadget team. We did know that, we did know that they were going to take the shots downfield. We're fortunate where our secondary is right now is one of our strengths."

With Lebowitz in at QB and the clock ticking away, the Panthers milked the clock for a 21-16 victory. Lebowitz's seven-yard first down rush on third-and-three ended any hope that Hamilton had of a miracle ending.

The Panthers season will culminate with a road tilt against the Tufts Jumbos. The last Jumbos victory over Middlebury came in 2001. The Panthers hope to finish the season 6-2 with the victory, which would represent the program's fourth straight season with at least four wins.

PANTHER SCOREBOARD

WOMEN'S SOCCER	vs. Williams	2-1 ^L	The women failed to repeat their victory over the Ephs in the NESCAC semifinals.
FOOTBALL	vs. Hamilton	21-16 ^W	The Panthers beat Hamilton for the 20th-straight time.
FIELD HOCKEY	vs. Bowdoin	2-1 ^L	Field Hockey gave up the NESCAC title to their perennial rival.
VOLLEYBALL	vs. Bowdoin	3-1 ^L	The squad ended their season in the NESCAC semi-final round.
MEN'S SOCCER	vs. Wesleyan	0-0 ^L	The Panthers fell in a penalty shootout after a scoreless 110 minutes of soccer.

Women's Soccer Falls to Williams in Semis

By Alex Morris

Sports Editor

After upsetting Williams just one week ago, the Middlebury women's soccer team couldn't repeat the feat on Saturday, Nov. 7, falling in the NESCAC semifinals to the eventual NESCAC champions 2-1.

In the week leading up to the game, Head Coach Peter Kim described practice as business as usual.

"I can't say we were really worried," Kim said. "We knew we could beat them. We knew they were really good but we had a game plan going in. When you play a team like Williams you know they're going to create some good chances but we knew we were going to create our own as well and we just needed to finish them."

The Ephs came into the game with a vengeance, and wasted no time getting on the scoreboard. Just four minutes in, Jacqueline Simeon swung a corner kick in from the right

to the far post, where Kristi Kirshe headed it into the back of the open net.

Two minutes later, Kirshe played the ball ahead for her teammate Kristina Alvarado, who was taken down in the box and awarded a penalty kick. Mai Mitsuyama stepped up to the spot and nailed the shot into the bottom left corner, leaving Middlebury keeper Kate Reinmuth '17 helpless.

"We gave up the goals and it was frustrating, but it's kind of indicative of how the season has gone," Kim said. "We've had a lot of setbacks on and off the field and we've kept our focus and kept looking ahead. I think the whole game we felt like we were going to come back until the dying minutes. It could have been anyone's game and it's unfortunate it was a couple of set pieces that determined the game because you never like to see that."

Despite being two goals down, Middlebury refused to back down. They almost came up with an answer 18 minutes in when Katherine Hobbs '17 shot sailed just high. Their perseverance was rewarded in the 33rd minute through the hard work of Adrianna Gildner '17. The fifth-leading scorer in the NESCAC unleashed a 20-yard effort from the right side that sailed into the upper left hand corner to cut the deficit to one going into the halfway point.

The second half settled into a back-and-forth affair, and the Panthers seemed to have the slight upper hand as they pushed to tie the game. Alvarado had a chance reestablish Williams' two goal lead, but Reinmuth made the save.

In the final 10 minutes of the game, the Panthers turned it up a gear in search of a goal to tie the game and send it to overtime. Gildner sent a 35-yard free kick into the box where Amy Martin's '18 corralled it and shot, but was denied by keeper Tressa Palcheck.

Just moments later, a Gildner shot rebounded to Hannah Robinson '16. The Panther midfielder shot, but Palcheck made a full-extension save to keep Middlebury off the scoreboard and ultimately seal the Williams win.

Middlebury outshot its opponent 16-7, and Reinmuth made three saves, while Palcheck was credited with five.

Gildner believed that for most of the game the Panthers could walk away with the win.

"I think the best part of our play against Williams was that for almost the entire game we managed to play our style, stay connected, and stay positive as a team," she said. "We possessed the ball and had a lot of opportunities on goal, but we weren't able to capitalize on them, which unfortunately is just how soccer is sometimes."

The Panthers graduate two seniors, Jamie Soroka '16 and Robinson, who started 46 and 60 games in their career respectively. However, with much of the team returning, Kim is optimistic about the future.

"We have a lot of great young players and good team chemistry," Kim said. "At the same time, while we're not graduating a lot of players we're graduating tremendous ability, so filling those shoes is going to take a lot of people."

Despite this heartbreak, there are many positives to take away from the season and the evolution of the team.

"I think the way the team came together following so many tough setbacks — especially losing so many players — and some heart-breaking decisions on top of that really is a testament to their character," Kim said. "The team really stuck together playing amazing soccer at the end of the season. It's kind of tragic it ended the way it did because we really were hitting our stride."

THE MIDDLEBURY GREAT EIGHT

RANKING	TEAM	Rigas's Reasoning
1	FIELD HOCKEY	They've qualified for the NCAA tournament for the thirteenth straight season.
2	FOOTBALL	That's 20 in a row against Hamilton.
3	CROSS COUNTRY	Both teams had top five finishes this weekend.
4	WINTER SPORTS	One more week baby!
5	MEN'S SOCCER	Their 13-2-2 record wasn't enough to make the NCAA tournament.
6	VOLLEYBALL	The entire team will be back next year.
7	WOMEN'S SOCCER	Jamie Soroka and Hannah Robinson will be sorely missed.
8	ANNIE LEONARD	The sophomore scored her twentieth goal of the season.

BY THE NUMB3RS

46 Men's soccer broke Middlebury's single-season goal scoring record with their goal against Trinity in the semis.

5 Women's cross country runners who finished in the top-20 in the ECAC Championships' 311-runner race.

0 The amount of graduating seniors on Middlebury's volleyball team, which finished fourth in the NESCAC.

.239 The field hockey team's collective shot percentage this season as they head into the NCAA tournament.

171 Matt Minno '16 tied his record for receiving yards against Hamilton last weekend in a game where he caught three touchdowns.

Field Hockey Can't Find Way Past Bowdoin

By Nicole Roos
Staff Writer

The women's field hockey team cruised to a 4-1 victory over Tufts in a NESCAC semifinal round on Saturday before falling to Bowdoin in Sunday's championship game. The Panthers (16-2) were looking for their fourth consecutive championship title, after beating Bowdoin (18-0) in each of the last three NESCAC championship games, but the top-ranked Polar Bears were able to take back this year's title in a 2-1 victory.

"The team produced another win over nationally ranked Tufts on Saturday in the NESCAC semi-final," Coach Katharine DeLorenzo reflected.

Tufts' offense started Saturday's game on the attack, earning four penalty corners in the first 16 minutes of play. Middlebury responded quickly, and the Panthers converted their second corner of the game to make it 1-0 in the 24th minute. Pam Schulman '17 netted a ball redirected to her by co-Captain Bridget Instrum '16, who received the insert from Caroline Knapp '18.

Less than eight minutes later, Instrum recorded her second assist of the game, feeding Molly Freeman '19 for a goal that put the Panthers up 2-0.

The Jumbos were almost able to get on the scoreboard in the final few minutes of

the opening half when they earned another penalty corner, but Middlebury's co-Captain Jillian Green '16 was waiting on the goal line to deny the ball that made it past Panther goalie Emily Miller '17. Tufts saw another promising shot turned away by the Middlebury defense, when co-captain Shannon Hutteman '16 met Maggie Chapman's ball on the goal line when it had snuck behind Miller.

Annie Leonard '18 scored her 19th and 20th goals of the season in the second half, finding the back of the net in the 43rd and 52nd minutes. Grace Jennings '19 assisted Leonard's first, while the second goal was a solo effort.

Tufts had one more shot turned away by a defensive save from Green in the final seven minutes before finally finding the back of the net. The Jumbos earned one final corner in the 70th minute, and Hanaa Malik successfully converted it to a goal to spoil Middlebury's shutout.

Tufts outshot the Panthers 11-10 while holding a 10-7 advantage in penalty corners. Jumbo Emily Polinski ended the day with five saves, while Miller recorded two saves in the winning effort.

The Panthers met the host school on Sunday in the championship match.

"Sunday's final against rival Bowdoin

was a battle from the opening whistle," DeLorenzo said. "The team carried the early momentum, setting a strong tone and fast pace to the game."

Indeed, both teams attacked strong and early. The game remained scoreless as both goalies recorded a pair of early saves, before Bowdoin put themselves on the scoreboard at the 12-minute mark. Polar Bear Kimmy Ganong fired a shot at Miller, who made an initial save, but Rachel Kennedy capitalized on the rebound for a 1-0 lead.

Seven minutes later, Freeman responded for the Panthers, launching a shot into the air that deflected off Bowdoin goalie Clara Belitz before finding the back of the cage. Miller saved another Kennedy attempt with nine minutes remaining in the half to keep the game tied at 1-1. The Panther defense then made a huge block on Kelsey Mulaney's penalty corner attempt in the remaining minutes of the first half.

Almost 20 minutes into the second, the Polar Bears scored what would be the game winning goal following a broken penalty corner. Middlebury's defense disrupted Bowdoin's corner, which sent a loose ball over towards the left side of the circle. Emily McColgan collected the ball and sent a shot through an open hole to put Bowdoin up 2-1.

The Polar Bears did not back down their

offensive effort, nearly adding a third goal a few minutes later. However, Caroline Knapp '18 was able to block the Polar Bears on the right post.

Middlebury continued to attack the Bowdoin defense as well, with Audrey Quirk '18 firing off one final shot in the last seven minutes. The Panthers pulled Miller with 1:36 remaining in the game to put an additional attacker on the field, but the Polar Bears held on for the win.

"This weekend's loss was tough, but we are confident the team will grow stronger from it," Green said. "We worked together and played well as a unit, which we hope to bring into the NCAA tournament. Having another week of practice before the second round of NCAA's is a huge advantage, and as a team we are very excited to show the NCAA what Middlebury field hockey is all about."

Despite the loss, the Panthers have earned an at-large bid to the NCAA tournament. The team will make its 13th consecutive and 16th overall appearance in the Tournament when it travels to William Smith for the NCAA Regional tournament this weekend. The Panthers (16-2) will meet the winner of a Wednesday game between Cabrini (12-8) and Franklin & Marshall (16-3) on Saturday, Nov. 14 at 2 p.m.

Men's Soccer Undone By Penalties against Cardinals

By Andrew Rigas
Sports Editor

Leading up to the matchup between Middlebury and Wesleyan in the semifinal, Head Coach Dave Saward predicted that it would be a very even contest. He was correct, and after no score in regulation and two overtimes, the Middlebury men's soccer team fell to Wesleyan by penalty kicks (5-4) in the NESCAC tournament semifinals on Saturday, Nov. 7. The loss ended the Panthers' season when they were not granted an at-large bid to the NCAA tournament.

The Cardinals came out with a lot of confidence after upsetting previously undefeated Amherst looking to knock off the highest-seed remaining in the NESCAC tournament for the second straight game, and possessed the ball early on by moving the ball well.

In the 18th minute, the Panthers moved into the offensive end and Daniel O'Grady '19 played a little chip to Greg Conrad '17. Conrad gave it right back on a lead pass into the box, and O'Grady cut into the middle and fired a low shot that Wesleyan goalkeeper Jack Katkavich pounced on. Four minutes later, Adam Glaser '17 attacked from left to right, using his speed to draw a foul and set up a free kick. Glaser lined up the kick and sent it past Wesleyan's wall to the right side, but Katkavich dove and corralled the shot to keep the game scoreless.

Off another Wesleyan foul in the 27th minute, Conrad's header off the free kick was stopped but rebounded to Kyle Moffat '19 who got his head on it. It looked like Moffat

had scored the game's first goal, but Wesleyan's Charlie Gruner cleared the ball off the goal line to prevent the goal. Wesleyan had a chance of their own less than a minute later, but Max Jones' chip sailed over the bar.

Neither team could separate itself from the other as the game continued to be wide open in the second half. Both the Panthers and the Cardinals created numerous opportunities but could not put the ball in the net. Glaser and Conrad both missed just wide, and Wesleyan's leading scorer Chris Kafina came close to breaking the deadlock as well. As tension rose on the field and in the stands, the game remained scoreless and the teams needed overtime to settle.

Deklan Robinson '16 almost ended the game in the 96th minute when he rose up to head a corner kick that went just to the right of the goal.

Fatigue started to show in the second overtime period when the Middlebury defense sloppily let Adam Cowie-Haskell get free for a one-on-one with Panther goalkeeper Greg Sydor '17. Sydor was able to deny Cowie-Haskell to bail his defense out, and had to do so again less than three minutes later when Kafina beat the exhausted Middlebury side. Sydor made the save, keeping the score 0-0 and forcing a penalty shootout to decide who would advance to the NESCAC championship game.

In front of Middlebury's largest and loudest home crowd this season, Kirk Horton '17 took Middlebury's first shot and sent it over the bar. Brandon Sousa knocked his in

the opposite direction of the diving Sydor and put Wesleyan ahead 1-0. Robinson got Middlebury on track, tying the score, but Gruner quickly responded, just beating the outstretched Sydor. Down 2-1, Tom Bean '17 brought the Panthers even again with his penalty kick.

Then Sydor stepped up again, making a diving save on Hans Erickson's shot to keep the score even, or so it seemed. The line judge ruled that Sydor left his line early and awarded Erickson another attempt, which he made to put Wesleyan up by one again.

"In 31 years, I have never seen a retake," Saward said. "It was a very questionable decision. To me it was a great save."

Glaser, Kafina and Andres Chamorro '16 all scored, so with the score tied, it came down to Dylan Hoy against Sydor. Hoy chipped his shot right down the middle, beating Sydor who dove off to the side.

With the win, the Cardinals advanced to the championship, but fell to Bowdoin there, as the Polar Bears won their second NESCAC title in a row.

The loss left the Panthers hoping for an at-large bid into the NCAA tournament to continue their season when the committee announced the field on Monday, Nov. 9. Middlebury did not get a bid, and they ended their season with a 13-2-2 record, while Bowdoin, Amherst, and Tufts will represent the NESCAC in the NCAA tournament, the latter two as at-large selections.

"This is one of the very best teams I have coached here," Saward said. "They captured

the real essence of what it means to be on a team. They worked hard and supported one another throughout the whole year, and every single member of the squad impacted the outcome."

Although ultimately a disappointing way to end the season, the 2015 season will be in the record books for a number of reasons. The Panthers tied the program's single game goal record with 10 against Green Mountain State. They broke the 17-year old season goal record by scoring their 46th goal of the year against Trinity in the NESCAC quarterfinals. Adam Glaser set both the single season and career assist records with 14 assists this year, twice as many as any other player in the NESCAC, and 23 on his career. Entering his senior season, Glaser will need 16 points to break Kyle Dezotell '03's career points record of 90.

Robinson, Chamorro, Tyler Bonini '16, Andres Rodlauer '16 and John Lower '16 will all graduate this spring. Robinson's started 57 games in his four career at Middlebury, scoring seven goals and assisting on 6 while playing defensive back for a defense that conceded eight goals in 17 games this season.

"They have been the foundation of the team's success, and will leave a legacy of excellence both on the field and in the classroom that will inspire those that follow," Saward said. "We will miss them all."

The Panthers will have nine players who started at least ten games this year returning for the 2016 season, including Glaser, Conrad, Horton and Bean, who started all 17 games this season.

EDITORS' PICKS



ANDREW RIGAS (17-10, .630)



ALEX MORRIS (77-70, .524)



EMILY BUSTARD (47-50, .485)



JOE MACDONALD (71-81, .467)

Will Field Hockey make it past their regional challenger this Saturday, Nov. 14 in the NCAA Tournament Second Round?

YES

Alex hit the nail right on the head.

YES

They're only losses have been against the no 1 seed in the nation.

YES

Middlebury has a history of doing well in NCAA tournament play, having made it to the National Semifinal last year.

YES

Championship or bust.

Pick 'em: Winner of Middlebury Football's final game of the season vs. Tufts.

MIDDLEBURY

They'll need to play better than they did against Hamilton though.

MIDDLEBURY

I think they'll end the season on a high note.

MIDDLEBURY

This team is looking at a solid 6-2 season.

MIDDLEBURY

Tufts' RB Chance Brady is a beast, but the Jumbo D can't stop Milano and Minno.

Over/Under: A top five finish for Men's Cross Country this weekend at the NCAA Regional meet, hosted by Conn. College.

UNDER

The team finished fifth in the NESCAC championship.

OVER

New England is the most competitive region in the country, but they'll go top 3 for sure.

OVER

After a good performance at ECAC's I think they'll place in the top five again this year.

OVER

I defer to Alex here.

Pick 'em: UCLA vs. Washington State

UCLA

Win out, and they make the Pac-12 championship. Josh Rosen is going to have a day against Mike Leach's porous defense.

UCLA

UCLA will edge it on the home turf, but it'll be close. #ilovefootball

UCLA

Because my brother goes there.

WASHINGTON STATE

Upset over the #23 Bruins this weekend could launch Washington into Top 25.

HEARTBREAK ON THE PITCH



After remaining scoreless for 110 minutes, the NESCAC Semi-Final between Middlebury and Wesleyan went into penalty kicks. Wesleyan won the shootout, knocking the men's soccer team out of the NESCAC tournament and ending their season. See page 19 for full coverage.

MICHAEL O'HARA

Volleyball Tops Tufts, Falls to Bowdoin in NESCAC Semis

By Rob Erickson
Staff Writer

After taking down fifth-seeded Tufts last Friday (25-21, 25-20, 19-25, 25-16) to advance to the semi-final round of the NESCAC championship, the Middlebury volleyball team saw their season come to a close with a difficult loss to Bowdoin on Saturday (21-25, 24-26, 13-25). The Polar Bears would go on to defeat Williams in the championship round on Sunday, earning a berth in the NCAA tournament; the Panthers, finishing their season at 18-7 and 7-3 in the conference, were left to wonder at what could have been, despite having thoroughly exceeded the on-paper expectations for a team with no seniors that finished 12-12 last year.

"We've had some lopsided matches recently (good wins, and tough losses), and I think we're learning what it feels like to really play well together, and we just need to do that consistently this weekend," Head Coach Sarah Raunecker said. "I like where we are now heading into NESCAC's. If we play well, we can compete with anyone there so we feel like we're in control of our destiny."

After defeating Tufts in their last regular season game, Middlebury drew the Jumbos in the first round of the NESCAC tournament. The Jumbos showed up ready to play, hoping to exact their revenge, but the Panthers refused to budge. The score ran all the way to 22-22 before some strong play from middle hitter Gabi Rosenfeld '17 and outside hitter Becca Raffel '18 allowed Middlebury to wrap up the first set. The Panthers capitalized upon that momentum in the second, racing out to going ahead 13-4 and then coasting to a 24-16 lead. Tufts stuck around for a bit, stringing together four straight points, but ultimately fell on a service error that gave the Panthers a 2-0 lead.

With their backs against the

wall, the Jumbos fired off a quick eight points to start off the third and would lead the rest of the way. Middlebury made a push to get within five at 19-14, but Tufts regained control with three straight and went on to notch their first set victory, 25-19.

In the fourth set, the match concluded with some hard-nosed play. The two teams fought to a 13-13 tie before the Panthers began to distance themselves from the Jumbos, building a 17-14 lead and then running away with a 25-16 victory and the match. Notable players for Middlebury include Raffel, who led both sides with 15 kills, Rosenfeld, who had 1 solo block and 4 block assists, libero Emily Kolodka '18 who dug up 25 balls and setter Hannah Blackburn '17 who dished out 36 assists.

"We weren't even thinking about the fact that it was Tufts," outside hitter Alice Roberts '17 said. "This tournament, we went in saying that we can only focus on what we're going to do — and we want to win the whole thing. Tufts came back and definitely fought, but we were playing too well."

On Saturday, the Panthers found themselves in the opposite situation, trying to get back at a Bowdoin team that had handed them their first conference loss back in September. However, some of the consistency problems that plagued Middlebury at times earlier in the season reared their heads once more, and little errors prevented the Panthers from stringing together runs when they needed them. In the first set, the Panthers stuck with the Polar Bears until Bowdoin, leading 15-14, rattled off seven straight points to go up 22-14. The Panthers fought back to make it 24-21 before the Polar Bears finished off the set.

Always resilient, Middlebury pushed Bowdoin to a 19-19 tie in the second set. The Polar Bears

scored four straight points, but the Panthers responded with a 5-1 run of their own to tie things up at 24-24. The Polar Bears took control, scoring two quick points to take a 2-0 lead in the match.

In the third set, nothing seemed to go Middlebury's way. Bowdoin jumped out to an early lead and never took their foot off the pedal, closing things out with a 25-13 third set victory.

"Our serve-receive went very well in the first two sets," Roberts said. "Once Bowdoin started to control the match a little bit, we got a little disjointed. We kept bringing ourselves back — we were composed the entire time — but Bowdoin just played a great game. They had almost no errors, whereas we had some unforced errors here and there."

Looking forward, good things seem to be on the horizon for the Panthers. They return every member from a squad that featured a number of players on NESCAC leaderboards. Raffel finished third in the conference in kills per set with 3.80. Middle blocker Melanie English '17 was second in blocks with an average of 1.04 each set, and Blackburn was third in assists with 9.68 per set.

Roberts shared that the team is even more excited to see where the added experience, along with a handful of incoming freshmen, might be able to take them next time around.

"Honestly, people were looking at our team as though we weren't going to be great this year, but I was very much expecting us to play well because our team was first-year and sophomore heavy last year, playing-wise," Roberts said. "Now I'm extremely excited for next year because we went this far, with this team that's not changing—if anything, we'll just be adding some more players," she said.

Cross Country Races at ECAC's

By Jackie Kearney
Staff Writer

The men's and women's cross country teams competed at Mt. Greylock High School this past Saturday, Nov. 7. The men competed in a field of 40 teams, placing third with 117 points total. They followed Amherst, with 53 points and Williams with 77. The women also had an impressive finish, ending fourth overall with 78 points in a field of 46 teams. This was an upset for the other teams in the competition, as the women entered the ECAC Championship ranked eighth. They followed Tufts with 45 points, University of New England with 63 and Williams with 73 points. Both teams rested their top eight runners in preparation for NCAA Regionals this weekend, and the NCAA National Championship the following weekend.

The women had five runners finishing in the top 20 runners of a 311-runner field. The top finisher for the women was Robin Vincent '18 who finished fifth. She was followed closely by a tight pack of Olivia Artaiz '16 (18), Caroline Guiot '16 (19), Claire Gomba '19 (20) and Read Allen '18 (66). Artaiz and Guiot finished out their final season and final race on a high note, crossing the finish line at nearly the same time. Tiana Thomas of University of New England won the race with a time of 22:54.20.

Artaiz was proud of her team after running her last race for the Panthers.

"I would say that we went into this weekend all knowing it was our last race so wanted to have

fun with it," she said. "We were all in a good mood in the line and it was a symbolic race for Caroline and I as it was our last race ever wearing a Middlebury uniform. We ran the entire race together and finished at the exact same time. We had plans to hold hands across the finish but we found out you can't actually do that in cross country or you get disqualified. It was a good close to the season and we were all happy to race one last time for each other."

On the men's side, Samuel Klockenkemper '17 was the top finisher for Middlebury, finishing in 10th place. He was followed by Kevin Serrao '18 in 15th, Harrison Knowlton '19 (18), Benjamin Hill '19 (25) and Andrew Michelson '19 (50). The men competed against a field of 277 runners, making their top five finishes all the more impressive. Liam Simpson of Williams College topped the competition with a time of 26:24.13.

"It was a great day," Klockenkemper said. "We ran a team of mostly first-years and to get third like that speaks to the depth of our team. We've got a lot of positive energy moving forward from this meet and our performance at NESCAC's, and I think we're all just excited to see what this team can do. We're running fast when it counts."

While many of the Panthers finished out their season with this meet, the runners who were rested this weekend will compete again this Saturday, Nov. 14 at regionals. The women race at 11 a.m. and the men follow at 12:30 p.m.

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